



HISTORY OF

DIXON AND PALMYRA

FROM 1827 TO 1880.

DIXON, ILLS.  
Dixon Telegraph Print.  
1880.



Graff

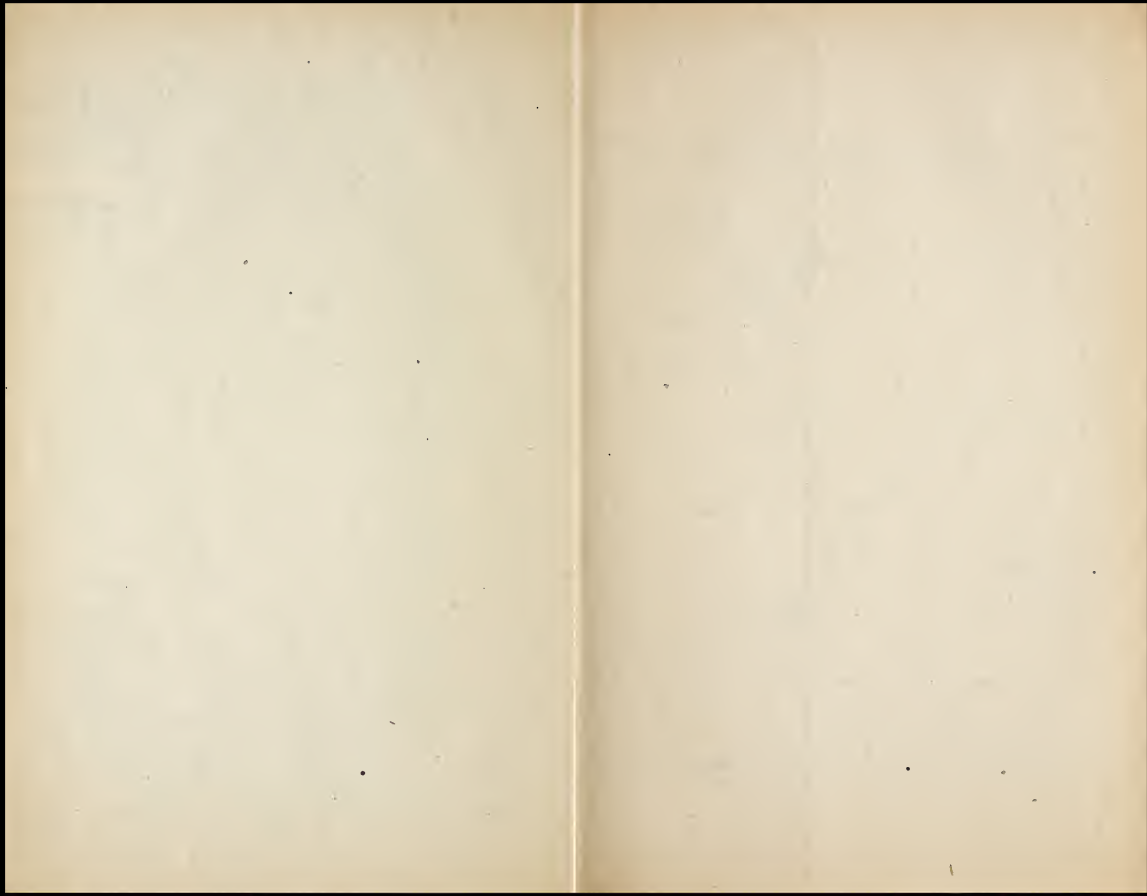
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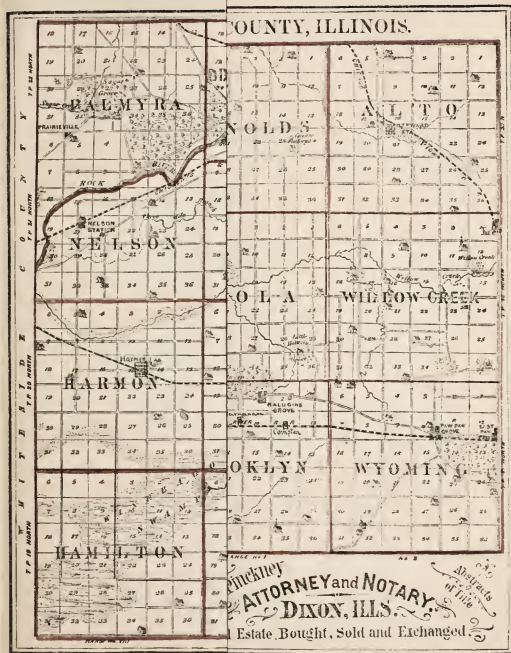
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1906

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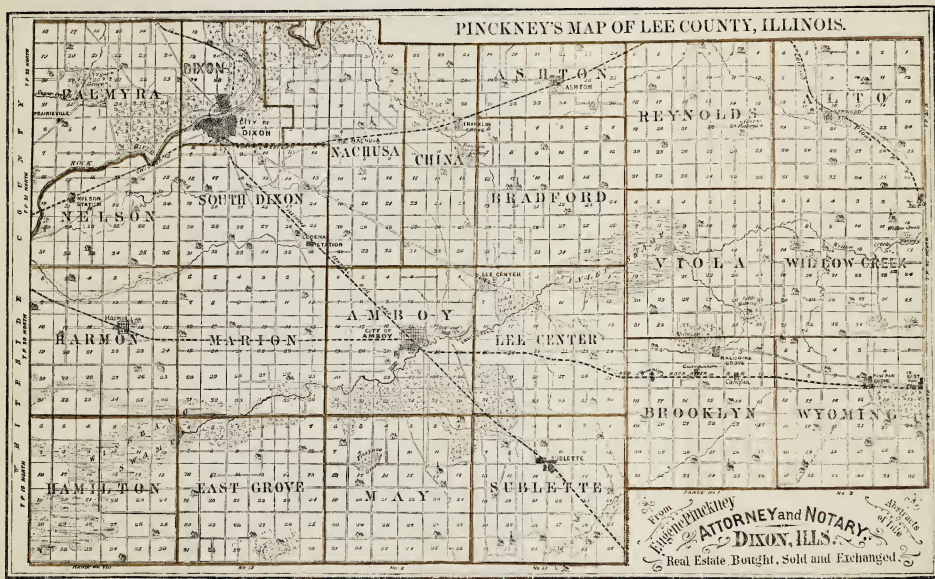
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MAP 187

# PINCKNEY'S MAP OF LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.



From  
*Pinckney*  
**ATTORNEY and NOTARY**  
**DIXON, ILLS.**  
 Real Estate Bought, Sold and Exchanged

HISTORY  
OF  
DIXON AND LEE COUNTY,

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CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD,

*Showing the Current Events and many interesting Reminiscences in  
the History of Dixon and Lee County, from the earliest  
white settlement to the present,*

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HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE SKETCH OF DIXON,

GIVING A RETROSPECTIVE VIEW OF THE PAST; A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT CITY OF DIXON; ITS NATURAL ADVANTAGES, ATTRACTIONS, WATER POWER, MANUFACTORIES, EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, ETC., ETC.

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BIOGRAPHY OF FATHER DIXON.

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SKETCH OF OUR FIRST SCHOOLS---by Dr. Oliver Everett

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A FULL

LIST OF SOLDIERS

THAT LEFT DIXON FOR THE WAR OF THE REBELLION, ETC.

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ILLUSTRATED.

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1880  
DIXON TELEGRAPH PRINT.  
DIXON, ILLINOIS.



## PREFACE.

The old settlers are passing away, and with them many interesting facts in regard to the early history of our town are lost to our citizens. It is proper that in this, the fiftieth anniversary year of the founding of our town by the honored John Dixon, there should be gathered together, as far as it is now possible, a record of all the events of interest relating to the history of the place, from the earliest settlement to the present time, and that the results of this labor be published to the citizens of Dixon in such a shape that these facts and reminiscences shall be preserved for their benefit and entertainment, and for the information of future residents of this beautiful city.

The chronological plan has been adopted as the most feasible form in which to present a full and authentic record in as brief and compact manner as is consistent with the idea of a comprehensive history. This, in connection with the other portions of the work, brings within the scope of this little volume an amount and variety of historical information not often comprehended in a work of this size.

Much of the materials for this work has been gathered from newspaper files and in many cases the language of the writers has been preserved. Other portions are from the examination of different records, while a large number of the early items are the result of the memory of old and respected citizens. It is true there will be some discrepancies in the memory of different old settlers in regard to certain facts, but the publisher does not hesitate to say that but few errors in respect to dates, etc., will be found in this work, and that in the important events noticed it can be relied upon as an accurate history.

While entire perfection is not claimed for this work, yet the publisher believes it more nearly approximates it than any history of Dixon heretofore presented to its citizens. In this confident belief we submit it for the reasonable consideration of the citizens of Dixon and Lee county.

In conclusion the publisher acknowledges obligations for favors and facilities extended to him by old settlers and others; to Dr. Oliver Everett and Mr. Isaac Boardman for the use of early files of the newspapers, and to Mr. John K. Robinson for reminiscences of the Black Hawk war.

Dixon, May 1880.



# CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD.

In the year 1838, a half breed named Joseph Ogee, built a log cabin and established a ferry across Rock river at the present site of Dixon. A license was granted him to keep this ferry. Dec. 7, 1839 by Jo Davies county, under whose jurisdiction this section then was.

In 1839 a post office was established at the ferry and a man named Gay appointed post master.

Sept. 29th, 1839, John Dixon was commissioned post master, and he served as such officer until the summer of '57. Those who have since served as post masters, have been D. B. McKimney, about three months; Smith Gilbrith, A. Brown, David H. Birdsell, Joseph Cleaver, E. B. Baker, and J. L. Camp since 1860.

April 11, 1830, Father Dixon, with his wife and family of five children, came to Dixon, bought Ogee's claim and run the ferry.

In the year 1833 the Black Hawk war broke out; a small fort was built upon the north bank of the river a short distance west of the present location of the wagon bridge, consisting of a log house and inclosure made by an embankment of wood and earth on three sides but open on the river side. The remains of this fort were visible for many years after and will be remembered by the old settlers. Among those who met at Dixon's Ferry during the war, were Col. Zachariah Taylor, subsequently President of the U. S., Gen. Winfield Scott, Gov. Reynolds, Gen. Atkinson, Lieut. Robert Anderson, Lieut. Jeff. Davis, Maj. John Demont, and private Abraham Lincoln. Anderson and Davis were young Lieutenants, just from West Point. Lincoln was a tall looking, young man, of 21. When Maj. Anderson visited Washington after the evacuation of Fort Sumpter, during a conversation the President said, "Major, do you remember of ever meeting me before?" "No," replied Anderson, "I have no recollection of ever having that pleasure." "My memory is better than yours," said Lincoln, "You mastered me into the U. S. service as a high private of the Illinois volunteers, at Dixon's Ferry, in the Black Hawk war."

When the little army was encamped around the ferry and when off duty in the evening, Lincoln

could be found sitting on the grass with a group of soldiers around him, eagerly listening to his stories, of which his supply seemed inexhaustible, and so one could imagine the young volunteer to taste the whisky which was often pressed upon him by his fellow soldiers, grateful for the amuse-ment he had afforded them.

Between the years 1832 and 1836 a plot of town called Burlington was laid out on land now known as Dr. Everett's farm. In 1836 this place had three log houses.

In 1834, a Government survey was made of the township of Dixon. There was not any township organization, however, until many years later.

In 1834 the name of the post office was changed from Ogee's Ferry to Dixon's Ferry.

About the beginning of 1835 the first survey and a plot of Dixon's Ferry were made by a Mr. Bennett, from Galena. It included a tract of 40 acres, extending from the river to a half block south of Third street, and from a half block east of Ottawa to a half block west of Peoria streets.

Joseph Crawford came to Dixon in the spring of 1835 and located on a farm at the "bend" near Grand Detour.

In the spring of 1836 the first Methodist sermon was preached to the people of Dixon's Ferry by Rev. James McKean, of Elkhorn Grove, pastor in charge of Henderson's Mission.

Spring of 1836 the first store was started by Chapman & Hamilton in the addition built by Father Dixon to the log house bought of Ogee.

In the fall of 1836 a man by the name of Lafayette died in the building on the corner of Galena Water streets and this was the first interment in the cemetery.

Sept. 3, 1836, when Dr. Oliver Everett came here, Dixon had four log houses, a frame house, a blacksmith shop and two or three houses in course of construction. Father Dixon's original log house was located on the north side of Main, across what is now Peoria street, the west end extending into J. M. Cropley's lot, and was occupied by the "store" and a tavern. There was a log house on the corner of Galena and Water streets, where

E. B. Baker's building now stands, and that winter was occupied by Col. Johnson as a boarding house; another log house stood on the corner of Water and Ottawa streets, and was built by Dr. Forrest, the original claimant of the Woodford farm. This building remained until the fall of 1878, when it was torn down by the owner, Lorenzo Wood. The log cabin of James P. Dixon stood on the north side of Main street, just west of the middle of the block bound by Galena and Ottawa streets on the west and east; in a room about 10 feet square, part of a "lean-to," built against the log house, was the village post office, John Dixon, P. M. The frame house, occupied by Mr. Chapman, was opposite Mr. Dixon's, and will be remembered as the small frame house that, a few years ago, stood just east of Pinckney's block; it was removed about 1876. The blacksmith shop was in a log building a few yards past the post office, and was the building recently torn down and known as the Reynolds' building.

The blacksmith, John Wilson, kept "back" in a small addition built against back part of the blacksmith shop. The house originally was a one story building, but afterwards when the street was graded a basement was built giving it the appearance of a two story house. Father Dixon lived "out in the country" on his farm near where the Northwestern depot is now situated. In this year (1836) there were six families in Dixon, but at one time there remained only four, two families moving out of town. The inhabitants were James P. Dixon, Peter McKinney, Samuel Johnson, Jude W. Hamilton, James B. Barr, and E. W. Hine, with their families; the single men were Dr. Oliver Everett, Smith Gilbrith, Daniel B. McKimney, and John Wilson. Caleb Tallings lived on the Peoria road about a mile south of town. Geo. A. Martin and E. W. Covill lived on farms north side of river, Stephen Fuller lived on Dr. Everett's farm.

The winter of 1836 and 1837 Peter McKinney & H. Thompson started the "Western Hotel," now the northern part of the Huntley House; also at the same time had charge of the tavern in Dixon's original log house.

In December 1836 the original county of Ogle was organized, then including the present county of Lee. At a closely contested election, less than 600 votes were polled in the county; under the old constitution six months residents were entitled to vote.

In September 1837 the first court of Ogle county was held in Dixon, Judge Stone presiding; the court appointed Thomas Ford, afterwards Governor of the State, Prosecuting Attorney. This session was held in the building formerly used as the blacksmith shop, which had been repaired—floor laid, plastered, etc., the previous part of the year. The following year the building was used by a company of engineers.

In 1837 the "Rock River House," located about fifty feet west of the corner of Galena and Water

streets, was built; first run by Crowell & Wilson, afterwards by Geo. Holly & Isaac Robinson. The name of the tavern was afterward changed to "Phoenix Hotel."

In summer of 1837, the first school house, a one story frame building, 30 by 30 feet, was built on the lot east of Mrs. Truman's place; it was afterwards removed to lot south of D. W. McKinney's residence. This building for several years was used for a variety of purposes: school house, Court House, Town Hall, Meeting House, etc.

In 1837 the number of families had increased to Thirteen.

In the summer of 1838, an Episcopal church was organized under labors of Rev. James DePuy, but after removal of the rector to other fields, active work was suspended and all records up to 1855 lost.

In 1837 a Methodist class was formed with the following members: S. M. Bowman, E. A. Bowman, Maria McClure, John Richards, Ann Richards, Caleb Tallings, Amanda Taylor, &c. Preaching was held at intervals of six weeks, over Bowman's store, north-west corner of Galena and Water streets. In 1839 the class had besides the above members: T. D. Boardman, Mr. and Mrs. Perry, Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Ayres.

Methodist preachers since the organization of the class—Robert Dillap and Barton Cartwright came here as circuit preachers in fall of 1837; they were followed by Isaac Pool and Elley Hill; Luke Hitchcock came in 1839, Richard Blanchard in August 1840, Philo Judson in fall of 1841. August 3, 1842, Inlet Grove, Palestine Grove, and Melungin's Grove were added to Dixon circuit, which already embraced Elkhorn Grove, Elkhorn Grove Point, Jackson Grove, Daysville and Paynes Point; Philo Judson and W. H. Cooley were appointed circuit preachers. W. Wilcox was appointed to Dixon in August 1843, David Brooks in July 1844, S. P. Keys in August 1845, Milton Haney and R. W. H. Brent came to this charge in Aug. In 1848 R. P. Lawson came in 1849, Wm. Palmer in fall of 1848, Thomas North in July 1850, James Butte came in Sept. 1854, J. W. Agard in 1854, Wilbur McKaig in Sept. 1855, N. P. Heath in 1857, L. A. Sanford in August in 1858, S. G. Lathrop in 1859, O. B. Thayer in Sept. 1862, W. H. Smith in March 1861, G. L. S. Stuff came in Oct. 1864, T. C. Clemmensen in Oct. 1865, Geo. E. Strobridge in Oct. 1867, J. H. Brown in Oct. 1868, John Wilson in 1867, Isaac Linchenger in Oct. 1874, G. R. Vanhorne in Oct. 1876, A. W. Patton in Oct. 1879.

In 1837 a "Claim Association" was formed for the protection of members in their "reasonable claims made according to the customs of the country."

Below we give a list of names attached to the original association in 1837 and 1838: Samuel G. McClure, Hugh Moor, John Chamberlain, Samuel Anthony, John H. Champlin, James Moor, A. Menten, S. N. Anthony, Henry Moon, Cyrus Chamberlain, William G. Elder, Josiah



Moors, J. D. Pratt, Robert Murray, Edwin Hine, I. S. Boardman, Jr., J. B. Dills, Alonzo Dickinson, John Richards, Caleb Tallmage, Charles Francis, Smith Gilbrath, Oliver Everett, Jos. Crawford, Timothy L. Mizer, Sam'l. M. Bowman, Jas. Kent, Moses Crumby, Major Chamberlin, Daniel Koonas, Chas. H. Hutto, J. M. Santee, Wm. P. Burroughs, Thos. S. Banner, Chas. F. Hubbard, John Cur, (by C. F. Hubbard), William Graham, (by C. F. Hubbard), Elward Brandon, G. Wetzel, J. Caldwell, J. Young, Jas. P. Dixon, John Dixon, J. Murphy, James Evans, (by John Dixon), his agent, James W. Stephenson, (by Gilbrath, agent) Jay, W. Dixon, Jos. Contrick, B. B. Browne, Sam'l. Johnston, Jesse Bowman, Jamc Hawley, Thomas McCabe, W. C. Bostwick, his agent John Dixon, John Wilson, John Aubrien, J. W. Hamilton, Ward Rithbone, Daniel O'Brien, Stephen Fuller, Jesse P. Bailey.

In 1817, S. M. Bowman & Co., opened the first dry goods store in Dixon, on the corner of River and Galena streets.

May 23, 1828, "The First Regular Baptist Church of Dixon and Buffalo Grove," was organized at Buffalo Grove, Thomas Powell moderator, the following named persons were the original members: Hosland Bicknell, Rebecca Dixon, Elizabeth Bellows, Jerniah Hammond, Sarah Kottger, Maria Parks, and Ann Clarke. At the close of four years there had 72 names on the list of membership.

Pastors since the organization—B. B. Carpenter from Dec. 1811 to March 1815, Wm. Gates occupied from Dec. 1811 to March 1815, Wm. Walker about four months between March 1814 and April 1817 when E. T. Manning became pastor for one year; W. S. Martin became pastor in 1819 for one year; G. V. Denton supplied the pulpit for about six months between Martin's pastorate and August 1831, when John E. Ball became pastor for about four years; Anson Tucker took charge in May 1833, served eleven months and Wm. Walker again in June 1836, served over four years; Wm. G. Pratt became pastor in March 1861, for one year; W. S. Goodins in Sept. 1862, served two years; J. H. Pratt became pastor in Oct. 1864, served over nine years; D. F. Carnahan became pastor in August, 1871; O. P. Bester, present pastor, took charge in August, 1887.

In the year 1828 there was a number of wealthy families from New York and other parts of the east, among them Capt. Hugh Graham and Alexander Charters, settled in the vicinity of Dixon. During this year the number of families in Dixon increased to 40.

In 1833 the first school was opened in the new building under charge of H. Bicknell; it was supported by individual tuition fees. Previous to this Mr. Dixon had employed a Miss Butler of Bureau county, to teach his own children. The teachers in charge of the school after Mr. Bicknell, were

Mr. Bowen a part of 1830; W. W. Henton in winter of 1831-2; among the pupils were Jane Ann Herrick, late Mrs. H. T. Noble; George Foot, Mrs. D. B. McKinney. Miss Ophelia Loveland (Mrs. J. B. Brooks) taught the school during the summer of 1834. The district then included both sides of the river, and up the river as far as Mr. Fuller's place, and yet the school numbered only about 45 pupils, among these were Miss Helen Williams, (now Mrs. Mulkins) and Miss Elizabeth and James Ayres, children of Oscar F. Ayres, of this city. Lorenzo Wood was teacher during winter of 1835-6, among the pupils were Miss Sybil C. Vanaman (now Mrs. E. B. Sillies), Mrs. A. R. White, Mr. Crook and Mr. James Lane taught the school between the years 1836 and 1838. In 1838 J. D. McKay had charge of the school and Col. H. T. Noble in 1831 and '32; among the pupils at this time were Mrs. Sonie, Mrs. Hollenbeck, (deceased) and Mrs. B. F. Shaw. The old school house had been abandoned and a new stone building erected, the same that is now owned by Mr. Backe, recently becoming by frame house. The school room including somewhat too small, a primary department under charge of Miss Jane Ann Herrick was started in the Court House in 1832, C. N. Levanway taught the school in 1832 and '33, and was succeeded by F. A. Sonie. In 1854, Wm. Hargreaves assumed control of the schools, and continued in charge from that date until July, 1859. During his charge the school took the character and efficacy of a graded school; shortly after Mr. Barge took charge the school was transferred to the basement of the building known as the "Land Office," now used by S. A. Vanu as a residence.

In 1838 and 1839 a railroad bed was made by the State under the old internal improvement system. Part of the old road bed, south-east of the city, is now used as a wagon road.

In 1838-9 a Frenchman named Kalmecz, had a grocery store on River street, which was noted for the "length of the candles" sold by him. The building now occupied by Elias Bovey as an office, was part of Kalmecz's store.

Aug. 2, 1838, John Dixon was appointed Commissioner of Internal Improvement of the Sixth Judicial District, by the Governor, to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Col. Stevenson, of Galena; at the expiration of the term he received the regular appointment by the Legislature. Feb. 1839, an act passed the General Assembly creating Lee county; James Crawford, of other parts of the State, No. 31, formally located the County seat where the Court House now stands. From the organization of the county until the adoption of the township and county organization in 1839, all the business of the county, inclusive of that which is now done by the townships and county, was performed by three County Commissioners, under the style of the Commissioner's Court. For the convenience of voting, the county

was divided into election precincts by the Commissioners; they also divided the county into road districts, providing for the opening of public roads. The Commissioners appointed the judges of elections for the different precincts, also an assessor, and a collector for the whole county.

Below we give a list of all County officers from the organization of the county to the present time. County Commissioners—At the first election in 1839, the three Commissioners were elected; after this one Commissioner was elected and one went out of office each year. C. F. Ingals, Nathan Whitney, and J. P. Dixon, were elected in 1839, A. E. Haskell in 1840, Joseph Crawford in 1841, O. F. Ayres in 1842, J. C. Morzan in 1843, D. Baird in 1844, D. H. Birdsall in 1845, James Goble in 1846, N. Whitney in 1846 (to fill vacancy caused by resignation of D. Baird) W. Badger in 1847, Stephen Fuller in 1848, John Gilmore in 1848 to fill vacancy. County Judges—H. Morgan from 1839 to 1843, O. A. Eddy to '47, Lorenzo Wood to '54, David Welty, to '63, W. W. DeWolf to '69, John D. Crabtree to '76, Jas. B. Charters present Judge.

County Clerks—I. S. Boardman from 1839 to 1843, Chas. T. Chase to '49, J. B. Gregory to '53, Thos. W. Eustace to '61, Jas. A. Hawley to '80.

Circuit Clerks and Records—G. W. Chase from 1839 to 1841, C. T. Chase to '51, N. F. Porter in '51, I. S. Boardman to '57, G. E. Haskell to '59, I. S. Boardman in '60, B. F. Shaw to '63, J. N. Hyde to '76, R. Warriner present Clerk. Records—M. Fellows from 1839 to 1844, E. W. Hine to '50. Since which time the Circuit Clerk has served as ex-officio recorder.

Treasurers—John Morse from 1840 to 1843, N. Morehouse to '46, S. Parker in '46, W. W. Bethen to '50, E. B. Stiles to '57, T. B. Little to '59, E. B. Stiles to '63, T. Little to '71, Josiah Little to '76, F. A. Traman to '79, Josiah Little present Treasurer.

Sheriffs—A. Wakelee from 1839 to 1841, A. L. Porter to '43, Jas. Campbell to '48, Jas. Goble to '51, A. L. Porter to '53, Wm. Joseph Crawford, Samuel McClure, O. Wheeler to '53, Lester Harding to '60, A. L. Porter to '62, Chas. P. Lynn to '64, R. P. Treadwell to '66, T. L. Pratt to '68, G. M. Berkley to '76, J. N. Hills present Sheriff. Superintendents of Schools—E. R. Mason to 1840, J. T. Little to '43, D. B. McKenney to '46, Lorenzo wood to '50, J. V. Eustace to '53, John Stevens to '55, S. Wright to '57, J. A. Hawley to '60, John Monroe to '61, W. H. Gardner to '63, R. F. Atherton to '65, J. H. Preston to '73, Daniel Carey to '76, J. H. Preston present Superintendent.

Surveyor—Joseph Crawford from 1839 to 1844, S. H. Whitmore to '46, S. Parker in '46, C. Camp to '49, J. Crawford to '53, W. W. Thunkam to '57, M. Santee to '61, K. F. Booth to '63, W. B. Andrews to '65, C. R. Hall to '67, Wm. McManis to '78. Coroners—Sam'l. Johnson from 1839 to '41, John Lord to '43, Sol. Parker to '50, Jas. Goble to '54, D. B. McKenney to '56, H. O. Kelsey to '64, J.

Hatch, Jr. to '66, H. Barrell to '70, A. E. Wilcox to '73, J. E. Church present Coroner.

States Attorneys—Wm. E. Ives from 1862 to 1874, A. C. Bardwell to 1880.

The Circuit Judges have been Daniel Stone two terms of 1840, Thos. C. Browne to '48, B. R. Sheldon to '51, I. O. Wilkinson to '56, J. W. Drury in '56, J. V. Eustace to '61, W. W. Heaton to '73, J. V. Eustace present Judge.

Sept. 13, 1839 the County Commissioners held their first session; they met in the school house. March 4, 1840, the County was laid off into sixteen road districts, and a Supervisor for each district appointed.

March 7, John Morse was appointed first Assessor for the county.

April 16, Joseph Sawyer was appointed first Overseer of the poor for Lee county.

David Tapp was appointed the first collector for Lee county.

Sept. 30, the county was divided into the following election precincts: Gap Grove, Dixon, Franklin, Malignin, Inlet, and Winnebago. The first election under this division was held the 4th of Nov., for two justices of the peace and two constables; Judges of election were appointed by the Commissioners' Court.

Third Monday in April, 1840, First Circuit Court opened, Judge Stone of Galena, presiding. This session was held in the school house. Wm. Martin, Noah Beede, Reuben Eastwood, J. M. Page, O. F. Ayres, Elijah Bowman, John Brown, Thos. McCabe, Cyrus Chamberlin, C. R. Miner, Erasmus DeWolf, D. H. Birdsall, Geo. Haskell, Daniel Dewey, Daniel Baird, Jas. Blair, J. F. Abbott, Peter T. Scott, Nathan B. Meeks, John Wilson, Zachariah Melugin, J. K. Robinson, Jacob Klinglinger, Oliver Hubbard, Simon Fellows, James M. Johnson, Benjamin H. Steward, Wm. T. Bradshaw, Hiram Parks, Jeremiah Murphy, Josiah Moors, Chas. Edwards, Joseph Crawford, Samuel McClure, John Chamberlain, Edward Morgan, Amos Hinesey, Daniel Frost, John Deane, Richard F. Adams, Sylvanus Peterson, Asa B. Searis, R. B. Allen, Wm. Guthrie, John Gilmore, Jr., David Welty, and James S. Ball, were appointed by the Commissioners to serve as Petit Jurors.

In the winter of 1839-40, J. T. Little & S. G. D. Howard, opened the second dry goods store on the corner of River and Hennepin streets.

In 1840 the Court House was built at a cost of \$7,000, and was paid for by donations; Father Dixon giving 80 acres of land which has since become a part of the town plat. The jail was built the same year.

Oct. 28, 1840, Joseph Crawford extended the original survey of the plat of Dixon.

In the fall of 1840 the U. S. Land office was moved here from Galena; Col. John Dement, register, Maj. Mackleton, register, D. G. Garney, became receiver soon after and John Hogan, register.

In 1840 the population of Lee county was 2,095 Dixon Precinct had a population of 725; 122 persons were employed in agriculture in this precinct, 17 in commerce, 35 at manufacture and trades, 12 in the learned professions and engineering, there was 1 school and 30 scholars.

Nov. 6, 1843, Friendship Lodge, No. 7, obtained a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of the State of Kentucky, (under whose jurisdiction it then was) with the following charter members: Samuel Johnson, W. M. E. G. Nichols, S. W.; W. A. Merritt, J. W. John VanArman, Treas., S. A. Martin, Sec. M. V. Kerr, S. D.; Alvin Humphrey, J. D.; Isaac Robinson and Nathan Whitney. Oct. 6, 1841, the lodge received a charter from the Masonic Grand Lodge of Illinois.

Jan. 13, 1841, the present legal organization of the Baptist church was effected under the name of the "First Baptist Church of Dixon."

Below we give an extract from a letter written by the poet William Cullen Bryant. His description of the view "from the door of one" of the "dwellings" will be recognized as describing a survey of the scenery of Rock river obtained from Gov. Charier's residence at Hazelwood farm.

Princeton, Ill., June 21, 1841.

"I have just returned from an excursion to Rock river, one of the most beautiful of our western streams."

Dixon, named after an old settler still living, is a country town situated on a high bank of Rock river. Five years ago, two cabins only stood on the solitary shore and now it is a considerable village, with many neat dwellings, a commodious court house, several places of worship for the good people, and a jail for the rogues, built with a triple wall, of massive logs, but I was glad to see that it had no inmates."

In the neighborhood of Dixon a class of emigrants have established themselves, more opulent and more luxurious in their tastes than most of the settlers of the western country. Some of these have built elegant houses on the left bank of Rock river, amidst the noble trees which seem to have grown for that purpose. Indeed when I looked at them I could hardly persuade myself that they had not been planted to shadow other habitations. From the door of one of these dwellings I surveyed a prospect of exceeding loveliness. The windings of the river allowed us a view of its waters and of its beautiful diversified banks, to a great distance each way, and in one direction a high plain region was seen above the woods, that fringed the course of the river, of a brighter green than they, and touched with the golden light of the setting sun."

The building on Water street now occupied by D. W. McKenney & Co. as a lively stable was built by J. T. Little in 1841 and occupied by Little & Brooks as a dry goods store for a number of years, and afterwards by Weh, Rogers & Woodruff. River street, (now known as Water street)

was for many years the principal business street of Dixon.

In 1841 the small stone building on the corner of Second and Ottawa streets, opposite the residence of Dr. Everett, was built, and for four years was used as the Land office.

April 16, 1842, The congregation of the Baptist church was separated into two churches, Buffalo Grove and Dixon, the Dixon congregation taking its present name. The Buffalo Grove church has since become extinct.

March 30, 1843, an election was held for village incorporation. There were 41 votes cast; all in favor of incorporation.

In the summer of 1843 the first Methodist church building (the house now used for school purposes) on Second street, south of the Public square) was dedicated by John T. Mitchell, the Presiding Elder. It cost about \$4,000. The board of Trustees consisted of J. P. Dixon, C. Edson, O. F. Ayres, L. G. Wynkoop, Thomas McCabe, J. Brierton, and S. M. Bowman.

A Union Sunday School was organized in the Methodist church soon after its dedication. The record of July 15, 1843, shows that the school had eight teachers, sixty scholars, and a library of ninety volumes." O. F. Ayres, was Superintendent; T. D. Boardman, Secretary, and J. W. Clute, Librarian.

A correspondent writing for a Rockford paper in the summer of 1848, said of Dixon, that it then had four congregations, Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal, and Congregational, and one church structure. That of the Methodist; a select school and one district school, with 75 pupils in the two schools, and 149 children under 20 years of age in the school district. It had 6 lawyers, 3 physicians, 3 dry goods and 3 grocery stores, 4 blacksmiths and 3 wagon shops, 3 tailors, 2 shoemakers, 1 painter, 2 cabinet makers, 2 saddle and harness shops, 1 bakery, and 2 hotels; one of them the "Western," kept by A. L. Porter. The town also boasted of a Young Men's Lyceum. This correspondent gives the town a population of 400; principally natives of New York and New England, with some from nearly every state; from Ireland, England, Scotland and Sweden. It also speaks of measures then contemplated to incorporate a joint stock company, styled the Rock River Dam and Bridge Company for the purpose of erecting a toll bridge, and a "good and sufficient dam across Rock river at this place."

The population of Lee county in 1845 was 3,322; an increase of 1,227 since the census for 1840.

In 1846 the Phenix Hotel also the store of Stiles & Eddy, on the corner of Galena and River streets, (Bowman's old store) were destroyed by fire.

In the fall of 1846 the erection of the brick building west of the Lee County National Bank was commenced; the west half by Horace and James Benjamin, and the east half by A. T. Murphy. This was the first brick building in

Dixon. The brick building owned by D. B. McKenney, on the opposite side of the street, was commenced a year or two later.

In the fall and winter of 1846 and 1847 a toll bridge was built across Rock river, at the foot of Ottawa street, by the Rock River Bridge and Dam Company. March, 30th, 1847, the freshet took out the north half of the bridge, and during the summer it was rebuilt, two feet higher than the original bridge, at a cost of \$2400. The contractors were Lorenzo Wood and Luther I. Towner. The board of directors consisted of the following named gentlemen: John Dement, Oliver Everett, John Dixon, M. Fellows, Otis A. Eddy, J. B. Brooks, Jas. P. Dixon, and Horace Preston.

July 27, 1848, the "First Evangelical Lutheran" was organized with the following charter members: Thomas H. Ayres, John Wittich, T. G. Hughes, E. T. Manning, and M. B. Beadle.

August 20, 1848, the "First Evangelical Lutheran congregation of Lee County," was organized in the barn of J. N. Burket, South Dixon, by Rev. Jacob Burket, and the following members: John N. Burket, Mary Burket, J. S. Moyer, E. J. Moyer, Moyer, Catherine Grow, Nathan Heller, Catherine Heller, Philip Mower, Mary Mower, Jacob Shoop, Catherine Shoop, Nancy Smice, Lydia Courtwright, Catherine Palmer, Magdalene Cline-toh, and Mary A. M. Burket. Jacob Burket continued in charge as pastor until Aug. 1850. Ephraim Miller was pastor from May, 1851, to April, 1852; Chas. Young from May, 1852, to Aug. 1853; William Uhl from Sept. 1853 to 1855. Nov. 12, 1853, the name of the society was changed to "St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church," and the certificate of organization recorded in the Recorder's office. Dr. Harbaugh was pastor from July, 1855, to July, 1858. William Uhl from Sept. 1858, to July, 1858. In Dec. 1856, the German portion of the church withdrew and organized a separate congregation, under the pastoral care of Rev. Chas. Young. J. L. Guard became pastor of the English branch of the church in July, 1858, and continued in charge until 1861; J. R. Kelsor was pastor from Sept., 1861 to Oct. 1864; A. A. Trimmer from the spring of 1865 to 1870, during which time two congregations were again united; N. W. Lilly served as pastor from Oct. 1870 to 1874; S. S. Waltz from Sept. 1874 to April 1879; L. L. Lipe the present pastor, commenced his pastorate in Oct. 1879.

In the spring of 1849 the south half of the toll bridge across Rock river was carried away by the ice. It was not repaired until the summer of 1851.

The first record of a house of worship for a Baptist congregation is dated May 5, 1849, and reads as follows: "The Baptist Meeting house was this day dedicated to Almighty God; sermon by Rev. Chas. Knapp, of Rockford, which was delivered to a crowded and attentive congregation." This was the church building on the west side of Ottawa street near Main, and used by the congregation until 1870.

May 13, 1850, the Board of Supervisors held their first session, but no business of importance was done until an adjourned session held July 2nd.

In August, 1850, the "Rock River Hydraulic Company," through their attorneys, L. Wood and S. G. Patrick, appeared before the Commissioner's Court, requesting that a jury be summoned by a sheriff to determine the probable damages that, in their judgment, would result from the building of a five foot dam across Rock river at Dixon. The jury met Sept. 20th, the same year, and after hearing testimony and visiting different localities on the banks of the river, the third day in session, decided that no material damages would result from the erection of such dam, and that it would be a benefit. The dam was built the following year.

In the spring of 1850, the County was laid out into townships under an act passed by the Legislature, February 12, 1849, entitled "an act to provide for township and county organization," by any county in which a majority of the voters should so determine. These townships were: Paw Paw, Brookport, Harmon, Lee Centre, Bradford, Farmington, (now Clinton) Amboy, Hamilton, Dixon and Palmyra.

In 1850, the population of Lee county was 5,289, being an increase of 2,067 since 1845. The value of real estate was \$215,610, and of personal property \$168,341. There were 12 corporation companies or individuals, in the county, producing articles to the value of \$2000, annually, as follows: one in the manufacture of harvesting machines, one manufacturing plows, one in lime, two in lumber, and two in the milling business; the capital invested was \$24,300; the average number of hands employed was 234. The county had one Academy, with 2 teachers, and 40 pupils; and 46 teachers and 1818 pupils in the common schools. There were 2 Baptist churches, 2 Methodist churches, 1 Methodist and Congregational, and 1 Tunkard church (the organization of the Lutheran church had not yet been put on record) in the county. The average monthly wages for farm hands was \$12; and that paid to day laborers, was 63 cents per day with board; and that of a day wright, 80 cents; carpenters \$1.50 a day; female domestics \$1.25 per week. Board for laborers could be obtained at \$1.50 per week.

The population of Dixon township in 1850, was 1,073.

May 1, 1851, Vol. 1, No. 1, of "The Dixon Telegraph and Lee County Herald," the first newspaper printed in Lee county, appeared; Chas. R. Fisk, publisher. We shall hereafter give brief extracts from the newspaper as reminiscence worthy of note. The first number contained the following sketch of Dixon:

All we shall say of our town at present is, that it is beautifully situated on the eastern bank of Rock river, about 75 miles from its mouth, and contains a population of 700 or 800. The landscape on either side of the river at this point is truly de-

rightful; consisting of gradual slopes and tables, for sixty rods back, covered with a somewhat sandy soil, and at this season, a carpet of living ferns, thus furnishing easy forrestedness, embraced by few, in any part of the world. The Methodist and Baptist denoumentations have each a well furnished church edifice of which the one owned by the former has a bell.

Here are also several land offices, a telegraph office, a court house, 3 hotels, a lively stable, a market, and 8 or 10 stores. There are also several professional men and mechanics in all departments of trade, and last but not least, is our printing establishment.

There is, moreover, a dam across the river at this place, furnishing one of the best water powers in all the state. A saw mill is already in operation on one bank and a large flouring mill is about to be erected on the other. Measures are also being taken to construct a bridge over the river at this point, which is now crossed by a good rope ferry boat, which is in operation all the year. These considerations, together with the fact that several stores and dwellings are now in progress of erection, that streets meet here from almost every direction, and that a branch of the Central road, is soon to pass through this town to Galena, conspire to render Dixon one of the most desirable places of residence in the western country. Capitalists and others, we think, would find it to their interests to make us a visit, with a view to investment and location.

A time table of the Chicago & Galena rail road, published in the first number of the paper, closes with this announcement: "Stages will connect at Aurora and St. Charles, for Dixon, Albany, and Rock Island."

Mar. 1, 1851. "Wanted a few pounds of lard to burn in lamps, at this office."

May 5, 1851, the following persons were elected directors of the bridge company: John Demet, C. Aldridge, John Stillaber, J. B. Brooks, John V. Enstace, Carleton Bayley, I. S. Boardman, Jr., Lorenzo Wood, and E. B. Becker."

June 14, 1851, a meeting was held at Dixon for the purpose of considering measures relative to the completion of the St. Charles & Mississippi R.R. through the counties of Kane, DeKalb, Ogle, Lee, Whiteside, and Rock Island.

June 22, 1851, "Some Presbyterians wishing to have worship in accordance with their own views and endowments," have preaching in the district school house.

June 19, 1851, "A stage passing last week, a little below Grand Detour, through water two feet deep, had it flowed over the bank of the river, accidentally run off the bank, and was capsized in about ten feet of water. No lives were lost, except the horses, all of which were drowned."

The dam at this place has thus far successfully withstood the tremendous rush of the high water current, and we think it will still do so.

Other dams on Rock river, we learn, have been compelled to yield. The dam here has probably a little better footing.

June 25, 1851, a Chicago paper speaks of Dixon in this flattering manner:

A road from Rock Island to Dixon makes it a city; as it is sure to have a road to St. Charles, Aurora, and Chicago, and to extend. And then if Dixon get the Governor (referring to the prospective nomination of Col. Demet) it will be a city certain. Will some one buy us a lot in the centre of the future city, to build a branch printing office upon? We have got to settle our boys somewhere.

The telegraph replies in the same strain: Send on those boys and we'll give them a lift. The lot is ready and can be had if applied for soon, together with plenty of good water power to propel the press; or if you prefer steam we can speedily get that up. The cars are soon coming and the man for Governor is on hand. Send on the boys and the press, they are just what will be needed for our new City Herald.

July 22, 1851, the Rock River Annual conference of the M. E. Church held its session in Dixon.

July 29, a brass band was organized in the office of W. W. Heaton. The members composing this band were, Col. J. T. Noble, H. P. Wickes, B. F. Shaw, Andrew J. Brubaker, Tobias Brubaker, Henry Brooker, Thomas W. Estline, O. P. Herlick, A. N. Barnes, A. B. Judd, and Charles Robinson.

During the summer of 1851 the south half of the toll bridge was rebuilt four feet higher than the north half; this made it six feet higher than it was originally.

Oct. 15, J. E. Hopper and M. P. Ball became proprietors of the "Dixon Telegraph and Lee County Herald."

Nov. 12, We are glad to see the rapid improvement the Dixon brass band has made. They have given two out door exhibitions of their skill which went off in good order. Mr. Selley, of Aurora, is every way fitted for the position of instructor.

January 21, 1852, John V. Enstace became editor of the Dixon Telegraph, and B. F. Shaw m'n ager.

The paper during the first year contained advertisements for these business men of Dixon: S. Anderson, daguerrotypist; Lorenzo Wood, attorney at law; G. L. Herlick, stove, tin, ware, etc.; A. T. Maly, insurance agency; D. J. Ayres, and J. B. Brooks, general merchandise; Enstace & Stiles, land agents; L. Church, clock and watch maker; J. V. Enstace, and S. G. Patrick, attorneys at law; I. Menas, plasterer; J. Westray, tailoring; Jacob Young, tinner; J. P. Dixon, lively stable; J. M. Minners, and H. P. Wickes, printers; R. G. & H. S. Loveland general store; J. M. Van Arman & A. G. H. Morrill supplied the citizens with meat "mornings and evenings to those who wish to buy for cash." J. S.

Henlon, dentist; W. C. & J. A. Johnson, grocers; John Stillaber, life insurance agency; J. C. & A. C. Steadman, lands, and land warrants; J. B. Washam, daguerrotypist; Western Hotel; L. Smith, proprietor. Hoie & Seiple, meat market; J. B. Nash, druggist; W. H. H. Crow, physician; John McNulty, cigar manufacturer; Murphy & Williamson, brick yard, North Dixon; J. W. & B. L. Davis, groceries etc.; S. G. Parkhurst, and goods, clothing, etc.; Sam'l C. Stiles, harness shop; E. W. Plue, clothing, boots and shoes; C. Brooker, cabinet and furniture shop; James Benjamin (joined by his brother Andrew soon after), harness and saddlery; J. D. Mackay, lawyer, broker, editor, real estate agent, etc., announces that he has for sale a "little the best farm in Ogle county." C. F. Linhard wants to find his pocket memorandum book. J. M. Johnson wants "100 head of fat cattle for the Chicago market." The proprietor of the Lee Centre horse announces that he had just received on the direct stage route from Chicago to Dixon—and is a regular stopping place for Frink & Walker's line of stages "Lee Centre Academy, Moses Crombie, president, announces that the "fall term commences in Sept., under tuition of Mr. James Brewer, a graduate of Williams college, Mass."

J. Armstrong lost two colls and rifles a reward for their return. A. H. Walcott, the Franklin Grove Nursery man, also has his "add" in the paper during this year.

March 29, 1852 Col. Hotch's line of telegraph between Dixon and Rockford completed; and offices established at Grand Detour, Mt. Morris, and Oregon.

March 27, 1852. During the week preceding this date, the village of Dixon was thrown into considerable excitement over the continued birth of a fellow named Hamill, upon a young girl living at his house near Dixon. Several citizens visited his house and took the girl from him and brought her to town where the Clerical Court was in session, and her story listened too. The next day the fellow had the "chuck" to come in town, and it produced such indignation in the community that he was treated to a liberal supply of tar and feathers.

March 31, 1852, a railroad convention was held at Dixon, to consider the subject of building a railroad from Dixon to the Mississippi river at Clinton. Oliver Everett was president and S. G. Patrick secretary of the convention.

July 2, 1852, the Dixon Telegraph appeared in mourning for the death of Henry Clay.

July 27, 1852, David Welby was appointed Drainage Commissioner.

July 31, 1852. Outworn is improving with great rapidity; there are no jelly drillings in course of erection; and would be many more if there were mechanics here to put them up. A large stone hotel is being rapidly completed, and a large number are employed on the grist mill, being built on the south side of the river.

Sept. 29, 1852, a convention of the North-western Fruit Grower's Association was held at Dixon. Oliver Everett, L. S. Pennington, J. T. Whitmy, and A. R. Whitney, Com.

Ho! Ye Democrats.—Call and get the people's Democratic pills for Wicks—one box sure to kill or cure—the wranglers will do to send their "field piece"—as they use neither powder nor balls, having "fired" them all off "with indignation" before battle.

J. D. Mackay.  
Cor. Sec. Jof. Union of New York City.

Bishop Whitehouse preached in Dixon all day, Oct. 30, 1852.

Oct. 30, 1852. Telegraph appears in mourning on account of the death of Daniel Webster; who died the 26th inst.

Tuesday, Nov. 2, 1852. At the Presidential election: Dixon gave Pierce 185 votes, Scott 138, voting 4; making a total 323 votes.

Dec. 18, 1852. The large five story flouring mill of Brown, Demet & Bailey, (Baker & Underwood's mill) commenced grinding corn. They will commence running in full force, with four run of stone, two for centon, and two for merchant work, the 1st of March, next. The mill cost \$15,000.

Jan. 29, 1853, the Presbyterian church was organized in Dixon, and the following Sabbath held public worship in the stone school house. The original members were: George Sharer, Nancy Sharer, James Means, Isabella Means, John Beatty, Nancy Beatty, Mary Richardson, Robert McBride, Mary Jane Smith, and Mrs. Jane Little. W. W. Harsha served as the first pastor of the church until 1862. E. C. Sickleles, the present pastor, took charge in December, 1862.

Feb. 19, 1853. 2600 men are wanted here to work on the Central R.R.

Some night there will be a fire in town; the next morning there will be great excitement about getting an engine, ladders, etc. Would it not be a good idea to get up the excitement without waiting for the fire.

March 7, 1853, Dixon was incorporated as a town. The first trustees were: John Dixon, A. L. Porter, M. P. Alexander, L. Wood, and L. Wynkoop.

March 19, 1853, a company was formed, with a capital of \$10,000, for the erection of a large hotel, the building to be ready for the public in July. (This was the Nachusa house, and was built upon the foundation laid for a hotel in 1848, further progress of which was stopped by the stringency of the money market.)

April 16, 1853. Some workmen engaged in excavating for our new hotel, struck upon two coffins. We are informed by Mr. John Dixon, our "oldest inhabitant," that they are the remains of two soldiers, who were buried in 1832 during the Black Hawk war.

April 16, 1853. After the murder of the great mormon high priest, William Smith, brother of



the immortal Joe, with a small band of followers took up their residence about twelve miles south of our town, and have since kept up their organization and meetings.

On the April term of Circuit Court in 1830, on the trial of the application of William Smith, brother of the Mormon prophet, for a divorce, the jury found a verdict for the lady.

The following is part of a letter showing the "inland of the Lord" as revealed to His servant William Smith:

"I would verify, this is the mind of the Lord concerning those families who have received the priesthood by being sealed to my servant William Smith and Joseph Wood; [for many years a lawyer at Paw Paw, this county] and have been washed, anointed, and ordained under their hands, having been received into the priesthood; though, having taken the covenant thereof; if they, or either of them, shall fall, or turn altogether therefrom, she or they shall be excluded therefrom, and from my church also; and shall not come forth in the resurrection of the just \* \* \* \* \*

Therefore, I, Jesus Christ, who am your Father and God, say unto you, if your wives be treacherous and sin against you and repeat not, I will reveal it unto you. Therefore confide in me, and I will be your God and you shall be my servants.—Amen.

Yours Truly, William Smith.

May 21, 1833. Among the many signs of civilization, to be seen in our midst, we notice a milk wagon and a drag, pursuing the even tenor of their way.

July 16, 1833, a division of the Sons of Temperance was instituted under the name of Loc county Division, No. 376, and the following named gentlemen elected officers: L. Wood, P. W. P.; W. H. Andrews, W. P.; J. Kerr, W. A.; J. W. Clute, F. S.; W. H. Crow, R. S.; A. T. Murphy, T.; H. O. Kelsey, C.; H. Brookner, A. C. About a month later the paper, in speaking of this society, says that it is "increasing very rapidly, already numbering some fifty members."

Sept. 17, a new bell was put on the Baptist church.

Dec. 10, 1833, the Nachusa house was opened. The paper of this date says: "We have been told repeatedly, by gentlemen whose business for the last year has taken them all over the State, that Dixon is improving faster than any other town in Northern Illinois."

Feb. 6, 1854, the first Agricultural Society was organized in Dixon.

March 9, J. B. Brooks, N. W. Abbott, John Daley, A. N. Barnes, and W. W. Henton were elected Town Trustees.

March 20, The hands employed on the Central road in this vicinity, have been on a strike for the last week, for a dollar and a quarter a day. Plen-

ty of small rows and knock downs have been the result.

March 23, 1854, Col. John Demont was about erecting two large build- ings for manufacturing purposes. [These buildings were on the ground now occupied by the Dixon Plow works.]

April 23, John V. Eustace retired and B. F. Shaw becomes editor and proprietor of the Telegraph.

May 4, "Bill" Smith, the Mormon prophet, confined in the County Jail for jumping bail.

May 5, the board of Trustees give John Demont the privilege to cut a mill race on Water street.

Exchange block was erected in 1854 by Stiles, Eustace and Webb.

June 22 the Masonic fraternity hold a grand festival at the Dixon House. Marshall, E. B. Stiles, Assistant Marshals, Henry N. Baker and Jerome Porter, F. R. Dana, L. W. Alberton, John Stevens, J. K. Rogers, and E. B. Baker, Committee; F. A. Soule, orator.

July 4, 1834. Never did we see this day pass off with more becoming style than did the Fourth of July in 1834, in our town. At 11 o'clock a procession was formed and marched to the beautiful grove in the Court house square, where, after listening to prayer by Rev. Mr. Danne, reading of the Declaration of Independence by J. K. Rodgers, they were treated to an oration delivered by Prof. Pinckney, of Mt. Morris. Much credit is due to the ladies and gentlemen of the choir and to the musicians for the part they played. And particularly the trio of young men who sang "Uncle Sam's Doodle" without the variations." Then came the sumptuous dinner at the Nachusa house. For this we supposed the days performance at an end; but no! dear reader, every moment of that day, the pride of the American people, was to be celebrated. For our part we were surprised when we heard the soul cheering rattle of the drums and the patriotic scream of the fife. How those martial strains did swell the already full hearts of all. With what pride and joy that column swept down the streets,—ever and anon their deafening cheers seemed to swell to the very heavens.

Night came on, and brought a large concourse of people to the public square to witness the fire works. For an hour the air was filled with the fire missiles, and the shouts of the immense mass of people.

Exchange hall being lighted up, the young and gay there congregated, and had as pleasant party as could be got up in any country.

In 1854 the Catholic church was organized under the labors of Mark Antony, with about twenty-five members. They worshipped in the Court house until the completion of a church building, which was erected the same year, and is the house now used for school purposes by the society. The pastors in charge of the church since Father Antony, have been Father Fitzgerald, Father Tierney,

Father Ford, Dr. Lightner, Father Kennedy, Father McDermott, and Father Hodnot.

July 27, 1854, Death in it its most frightful form, swept through our heretofore healthy town like an avalanche, carrying away, within twenty-four hours, eighteen souls. It is a sad duty we are called upon to perform—that recording the death of some of our best citizens; who but a few days ago were among us, sharing the pleasures and vicissitudes of this world. Ah, how true it is that "in the midst of life we are in death." But we all have reason to thank our Eternal Creator that in the midst of death we have life.

There had been a few deaths from cholera previous to this, among them Mrs. Alanson Smith, and two or three railroad hands, but it made its appearance as an epidemic July 21. On Saturday the 23rd, the cholera broke out in full force; and during Saturday night large numbers of the inhabitants left town to go into the country. The next day fourteen persons lay dead in the town. Not a sound, on that mournful Sabbath day, save that made by the undertaker's hammer, disturbed the quiet of the death-lie in the village.

Here is a list of the deaths during this epidemic, made out by doctors Everett and Abbott: Mrs. Patrick Duffee and child, Michael Harris, Mrs. Jacob Craver, Wm. Lake, Daniel Brookner and wife and Daniel Brookner, Jr., John Finley, Joseph Cleaver, (post master) — Cleaver, (cousin of Joseph) John Keenan, Mrs. Cooley, — Marsh, Mrs. Owen's child, John Connels, John Barnes, Elijah Dixon, Wm. Purick, Benj. Vann, Mrs. Scherer, Cyrus Kimball and wife, Israel Evans, Mrs. Catherine Dalley, Mr. Peck, Edward Hamlin, Frederick McKenzie and wife, Mrs. Huff, Mr. Jones, Mrs. C. Johnson, Owen Gallinger, and E. Boswick; making in all 31 deaths between July 20th, and August 7th.

Sept. 7, 1854. So rapidly is the march of progress in our town that we are hardly able to keep our readers advised of all the improvements that are going on in our midst. There are the three-story brick buildings on Water street; Col. Demont's machine shop, the race, etc. There are now in course of construction, three fine churches, Methodist, (the one occupied now) Roman Catholic, and Lutheran. P. M. Alexander and J. B. Brooks are also erecting a couple of fine brick buildings on Galena street.

Sept. 31, Stephen A. Douglas addressed the people of Dixon at the Court house.

The Washington house was completed about the 1st of October, 1854.

Sept. 25, 1854. A Congregational church was organized in Exchange hall, with these members: S. K. Upham and wife, G. W. Bartlett, B. J. Bartlett, Noah Brooks, Geo. D. Cox, Benjamin Gitman and wife, and W. W. Curtis. Rev. S. D. Post was pastor until April 1855. The congregation wor-

shipped in Exchange hall until Oct. 1856, when they removed to the brick church on Second street formerly used by the M. E. church.

Oct. 12th, 1854. Mr. Ferrie Finch, a young artist of fine talent, excellently cultivated, is now painting a portrait of the Blakes our town, Mr. John Dixon. It is to adorn Exchange hall and is donated by our citizens. [This is the picture now placed in the Court house.]

Oct. 26, 1854. The "Transcript," a democratic paper, makes its first appearance; Charles Allen, editor.

Nov. 23, 1854. Mr. E. B. Stiles intends building a long addition, 80 by 35 feet and four stories high, to the Nachusa house.

Dec. 7. A school house has been built by the citizens of North Dixon. This house we are glad to state, is a large and commodious building; having seats and desks for 120 scholars. Less than four years since that portion of Dixon situated on the north side of Rock river, contained but three dwellings, and now there are about seventy.

Jan. 14, 1853. The good citizens of North Dixon were frightened out of there—dwellings by the uncommon loud scream of the "iron monster" as he dashed thru' the town for the first time. Next Monday, (13 inst.) regular trains will run through to Galena on this road, the Central. As the bridge is not completed Messrs. Porter & Mallett have been engaged to carry passengers across the river.

Jan. 20, 1853. A meeting was held at Exchange hall for the purpose of taking into consideration the plan proposed by the Rock River Presbytery, through their agents Revs. Harsha and Nason, for locating a college at this place.

Feb. 8, 1853. A train crosses the railroad bridge for the first time.

Feb. 12. Trains commence running from Dixon to Chicago on the Air Line road.

Feb. 20. Ladies' Relief Society give a Fancy Dress party at Exchange hall. Each gentleman attending to purchase a pair of overalls, to be worn during the evening and then left with the society. Ladies requested to wear calico aprons. The Town Trustees elected in March 1855, were John H. Croysey, John V. Eustace, A. C. Steadman, A. L. Porter, and F. R. Dana.

March 15, 1856. At a sale of town lots by Brooks, Edly & Wood, the average price obtained was \$2.30 a foot; a corner lot on Main and Galena streets sold for 472 per foot. Property that Mr. Brooks gave \$248 for in 1848, sold for \$2,000.

March 24 and 25, 1853. The Baker family give two of their excellent entertainments at Exchange hall.

March 19, 1855, a meeting of the vestry of St. Lukes Episcopal church, Dixon, was by the Rev. Mr. Bentley, at the office of Robertson, Eastman & Co. At this meeting Addison Rice, S. C. Bolls, and Geo. C. Chalmers were elected members of the vestry to fill vacancy occasioned by the re-

moral from town of other members. This is the first record of the work of the church after the suspension of active labors. Soon after services were regularly held in Exchange hall, and during the summer of 18'64 an Episcopal house of worship was erected—the building that has since been changed over to a residence situated immediately north of the present church structure. Rev. Mr. Denley was the first rector of the parish after this reorganization, and he was succeeded by C. J. Todd in August of 1866, and he by J. G. Downing in May 1867. Rev. J. Wilkinson was rector from Aug. 1868 to Aug. 1869; Rev. A. J. Warner became rector in Jan. 1864, and was succeeded by G. C. Street in April 1875 to Oct. 1876. W. Henry Jones was rector from 1875 until his death April 23, 1878. Rev. W. W. Steel, the present rector, came in Sept. 1878.

April 2, a letter was advertised in the Dixon P. O. for "James, the one that married Eliza Wiggins."

April 9, 1853. J. some Hollenbeck & J. H. Crosey commence the erection of a Sash, Door and Filin' factory on Third Street, between Peoria and Market. The main building (now occupied by Vann & Means) was for four stories high, 32 by 64 feet, with a engine house 25 by 33 feet. They commenced operations in July.

May 4, 1853. Prof. Enochette becomes editor of the Transcript.

May 7, 1854. Dixon Collegiate Institute, under the care of Rev. W. W. Harsha, commenced his first-term; school room in the basement of the Lutheran church. Early teachers in this institution were Rev. W. W. Harsha, Prof. E. C. Smith, Mrs. E. A. Smith, Mrs. C. L. Harsha, and Miss Jennie L. Backus.

June 6, a subscription was started for the purpose of fencing and otherwise improving the public square.

June 6, 1855. The vote in Dixon upon the Main Prohibition law, stood 5'8 for and 38 against.

June 15, the toll bridge became free to foot passengers.

June 13, the Lumbard brothers sign in Dixon. June 27, 1855. The first number of the "Daily Whisper" is out and distributed through our streets. It is a spicy little sheet and contains some peevish reading. It will be issued semi-occasionally, from No. 6 (Mackay's office) Galena street.

July 4, 1855. The Corner stone of the "Dixon Collegiate Institute" was laid in the presence of a large concourse of people. B. F. Taylor, of Chicago, delivered the oration. The institution

had an endowment of \$25,000; the citizens of Dixon giving grounds, property, apparatus, etc. to the extent of \$12,600. In 1857 the institution was incorporated by special act of the Legislature. In 1858 it was abandoned by the Presbytery.

July 25, 1855. The erection of a Unitarian church in North Dixon was commenced.

Aug. 8, 1855. A. C. Appier becomes editor of the Transcript.

In August, 1855, Henry McKenney removed the Dixon house from the ground now occupied by the brick building on Main street, to its present location opposite the Opera house. This was the third building erected for a hotel in Dixon, and was built about 1848.

In Aug. 1855, A business directory printed in the "Daily Whisper," Aug. 13, 1855, contains the following list of business men and the departments they were engaged in. Counsellors at law—F. R. Damm, J. V. Eastate, Heaton & Atherton, J. D. Mackay, S. G. Patrick, F. A. Sonle, Edward Southwick, and John Stevens. Physicians and Surgeons—N. W. Abbott, Oliver Everett, G. W. Holbridge, W. W. Phillips, C. D. Pratt, C. S. Younglove; C. J. Reynolds, dentist. Bankers and brokers—S. & H. T. Noble, Robertson, Dele & Co., E. B. Stiles; real estate, Cyrus Aldrich, Steadman & Williams. Druggists—J. B. Nash, Townsend & Sheffield. Books and stationery—J. C. Mend. Notaries public—E. W. Hilt, F. A. Sonle. Daguerrian artists—Beardsley & Co., J. B. Waxham; Ferris Finch, portrait painter. Sash, door & blind factories—Christopher Brookner, Crosey, Hollenbeck & Williams. Boots and shoes—Joseph Smalley, William Vann. Carpenters and builders—such as kept shops—Henry Brookner, B. F. Crum, Crawford & Scheffner, J. M. W. Graham, Rogers & Henson, A. S. Maxwell, Wynkoop & Warner; not located about twenty. Cabinet ware—G. W. Baker, Noah & John Brooks. Blacksmiths—J. M. Crosey, Isaac Dobson, Albert Martin, Wertman & Carter; H. Logan, gunsmith. Wagon and carriage makers—J. Q. Adams, J. H. Richardson, Hens Schuster, Jewell & D. M. Bacon, Joseph Heath, Marble Yard—Parker & Potter. Mills—Brooks & Dalley, (near) N. G. H. Mill, Dessee of saw mill. Bakers—Charles Hatch, Charles Reynolds. Livestables—Frederick McKenney, Henry McKenney, Aaron L. Porter. Harness and leather—James and Andrew DeJulin, H. O. Kelsey, George B. Stiles. Foundry and machine shops—Dement & Farrell (excavating). Barbers—Anthony Jalen, Z. Demery. Tailors—W. J. Carpenter, D. L. Evans, F. Decamp, S. T. Hochkiss. General merchandise—Oscar F. Ayres, B. F. Barr, James L. Camp, Geo. R. McKenney, John P. Smith, VanEpps & Ashley, Varney & Gilman, Henry and Orlando Wortschkey. Clothing—Ely & Rice, Butler & Russell, J. T. Mullen, J. J. Pelzer, E. Petersberger. Groceries—Isaac Appier, Nathan & James Barnes, Andrew Erlson, Bronson & Dresser, Andrew Brubaker, James Davis & Bro.

Robert Dyke, William Johnson, J. L. Jones & Co. Henry Leavitt, James McKenney, B. H. Stewart, Richard Woodruff, Harward & Alexander, Howell & Co., John Parrel, Geo. L. Herlick, John Johnson, Son. Hats and caps—Jason C. Ayres. Millinery—Miss M. J. Bartlett, Mrs. Corwith, Mrs. Dickson. Lumber, sash, doors, cement, etc.—Pitt & Loomis, Gallup & Judd, Haldane & Co., Isaac Means, Smith & Chipman, S. K. Upham & Co. Forwarding and commission—Champion Fuller, Murphy & Woodruff, Smith & Chipman. Hotels—Mansion, A. Smith; Natchez House, Jerome Porter; Washington, Henry Remmes.

Sept. 12, 1855. The three story brick building on Galena street block, erected by H. Webb, about completed. Day's & Bro's building on the corner of Hennepin and Main streets, is nearly finished. Nash & Noble's four-story brick, (Union Hall) and Ely & Rice's three story brick on Main Street, and nearly a score of other buildings are progressing finely.

Sept. 23, 1855. The Evangelical Lutheran church was dedicated. This building was torn down last year; it stood near Jas. A. Hawley's residence.

Nov. 8, 1855. School opened in the new Union School house on Peoria street. This building cost \$4,000, and was a two story brick, 33 by 45 feet. It stood on the ground now occupied by J. C. Ayre's residence. The old wooden desks were discarded at this time and the first patent school furniture introduced into our schools.

Nov. 7, 1855. The population of Dixon was 3,100.

There were 139 buildings erected in Dixon during the year 1855.

J. B. Brooks, one of the oldest and most enterprising citizens of Dixon, died Dec. 13, 1855.

Jan. 5, 1856. John Stevens and J. L. Johnson became proprietors of the Transcript.

Dec. 28, the Hutchinson Family sign in Dixon. Jan. 16, 1856. A building owned and occupied by Mrs. Patrick, on the corner of Ottawa & Main streets, caught fire about midnight and was burned to the ground. S. G. Patrick lost \$3,000 in notes, law books, manuscripts, etc.

DIXON, Feb. 13, 1856.

NAMELESS MINISTERS. GENTLE—BY REQUEST of many citizens we, as the Town Board of Trustees, invite you to give a concert at your earliest convenience; the proceeds to go towards purchasing a Fire engine for the corporate town of Dixon.

By order of the Trustees. The concert was given February 20th. The "nameless" have since become "well known" as Jerome Holbrook, Oliver Wagner, D. B. Dresser, W. W. Curtis, Jason C. Ayres, Jerome Hollenbeck, Sidney Andrews, John G. Price, and H. T. Noble.

Feb. 17, 1856. The Presbyterian church was dedicated by W. W. Harsha. This building stood

immediately adjoining the present church structure, and was a small brick building, 25 by 40 feet. At the election held March 3, 1856, the Town Trustees elected were John H. Crosey, Win. Butler, N. W. Abbott, Harvey Morgan, and H. T. Noble.

April 9, 1856. The Unitarian church in North Dixon was dedicated. This building was situated on the corner near Clint's shoe shop, and was removed many years ago.

June 3, 1856. Anti-Nebaska meeting held in Dixon, and a society formed for promoting the settlement of Kansas by assisting bandits emigrants to that territory; \$1000 was subscribed for that purpose.

June 14, 1856. Messrs. Crosey, Dement, & Noble commence the erection of a large hotel (Shabbona house) near the depot.

Aug. 2, 1856. The stable belonging to the mansion house was set on fire and entirely consumed together with eleven horses, peddler's wagon, etc. Loss about \$5,000.

Aug. 9, 1856. James K. Edsall, of Kansas, and dressed the Young Men's Promenent Club at the Court house. The Territory, three weeks later in speaking of Mr. E. said: Mr. Edsall was a member of the Topeka Legislature, Kansas, which was dispersed by president Pierce on the Fourth of July last. He has permanently located in Dixon, the "blockade of Kansas" not permitting him to practice in that unfortunate territory, on account of his peculiar love of freedom.

Sept. 2, 1856. The ladies of Dixon presented the Fremont club a beautiful banner.

The three story brick building on Main street known as Herlick's building, now owned by J. C. Ayres, was erected in the fall of 1856.

Sept. 28, 1856. Services held in the new Epils copal church by Rev. Mr. Todd, rector.

Jan. 6, 1857. John B. Gongh lectured in Dixon. Jan. 15, 1857. The "Dixon Weekly Republican" springs to life from the ashes of the Transcript; S. W. Beckwith and E. H. Loggert editors.

Jan. 25, 1857. Five engines are struggling with the white and snow a few miles above here on the Central road. One engine is off the track, two are frozen up, and the other pair are still pitching in.

Feb. 13, 1857. Horace Greeley lectured in Dixon.

Feb. 13, 1857. A lodge of Good Templars was organized in the Sons of Temperance hall.

Feb. 14, 1857. The heavy body of ice which accumulated around the piers of the river bridge just completed below the railroad bridge, became so solid that when it arose with the free bridge, superstructure and all, were lifted up together. Had the ice in the river broken up, we would have entirely lost our bridge; as it is the bridge will have to be rebuilt. The proprietors

have stripped off the plank, etc., and will thereby save all the timber.

Feb. 24, 1857. The toll bridge across the river at the foot of Ottawa street, was carried away by the ice.

March 1, 1857. M. E. Church was dedicated by Rev. Witham McKaig. The cost of the building, including furnishing, etc., was about \$15,000.

March 2, 1857. The election for Town Trustees resulted in the choice of L. W. Atherton, S. S. Williams, G. L. Herrick, Isaac Monks, and T. W. Estance.

The ballot for the adoption of City Charter obtained in February, stood 96 for and 279 against adoption. This document has created a greater sensation among our citizens than did the great Magna Charter among the Britains at the time of John of charter fame. The obnoxious provisions will have to be removed before our people will consent to its adoption.

March 13, 1857. "Dixon Sax-Horn Band" organized with eight members; G. W. Howell leader and H. W. Oberholser musical director.

March 14, 1857. A young men's military company was organized. The officers are Capt. J. B. Wyman, of Amherst, drill master; H. T. Noble, Capt.; B. F. Shaw, 1st. Lieut.; L. G. Maquay, 2d Lieut.; Ellis J. Williams, 3d Lieut.

In the spring of 1857 a joint stock company with a capital of \$20,000 was formed for the erection of a Starch factory. The building was erected upon the bank of the river in West Dixon, but never entirely finished. The main building, of stone, was 100 by 62 feet, and two stories high.

April 4, 1857. The plow works and machine shops of Dement & Co are now in full operation. Seventy-five hands are already employed and more will be added. They turn out about 30 plows per day.

April 11, 1857. James VanArman has now in operation his patent wire-swing, back-and-act self-propelling ferry at the foot of Peoria street.

April 2, 1857. The machine shops of Robinson & Randall opposite the Dixon Mills commence business.

May 27, 1857. Mr. Jas. A. Watson commenced the erection of a foot bridge across the river at the foot of Galeus street. Money was raised a few days after to build a double track bridge.

July 9, 1857. Telegraph & Republican combine; B. P. Shaw and S. W. Beckwith, editors

July 15, 1857. A Female Seminary under charge of the Episcopal church, Rev. J. W. Downing, Principal, has been started in the large white house west of the Central depot, lately occupied by Mr. Smyth. This house will be used until a more suitable building can be secured.

July 16, 1857. Mr. Daily, of the firm of Brooks & Daily, has purchased the machine shop owned by Dement & Co., (now occupied by Vann & Means on 3d street) and will put in four run of

stone, converting it into a four mill. The building is too small for the increasing business of Dement & Co. who will erect new works between the depots.

July 27, 1857. The corner stone of the "Union Eagle Works," between the depots, was laid. Speech making, brass band music, and general rejoicing, was the order of the occasion.

Aug. 27, 1857. Prof. A. M. Gow, takes charge of the Collegiate Institute. The basement and two stories of the new building is now nearly finished.

The sale of lumber last year was over 5,000,000 feet.

Sept. 10, 1857. The man arrested in Dixon on suspicion of robbery, on account of being the sole possessor of fifteen cents, which we read in the Polo Transcript, was discharged. We can inform the editor of the Transcript, that according to the evidence in the case, it was proven by the prisoner that he was then on his way to Polo to start a bank.

Oct. 1, 1857. The Shabbona House was opened by a Mr. Benjamin, from Vermont, and the name changed to Dement House.

Nov. 28, 1857. Two spans of the north end of the new bridge, broke down with two loaded teams—undelght or nine head of cattle—no damage except to the bridge.

Dec. 10, 1857. The new river bridge in Morrill town completed.

Dec. 30, 1857. John G. Saxe, the poet, gives one of his popular readings in Dixon.

Jan. 26, 1858. A young men's Literary Association organized in Dixon.

"Old Folk's Concert" given at Exchange hall by house talent.

Town Trustees elected in the spring of 1858 were A. L. Porter, W. H. Van Epps, N. W. Abbott, William Godfrey, and H. T. Noble.

March 14, 1858. Nine prisoners escaped from the county jail by breaking through the door leading into the hack yard, and then breking through the old rickety walls of the same.

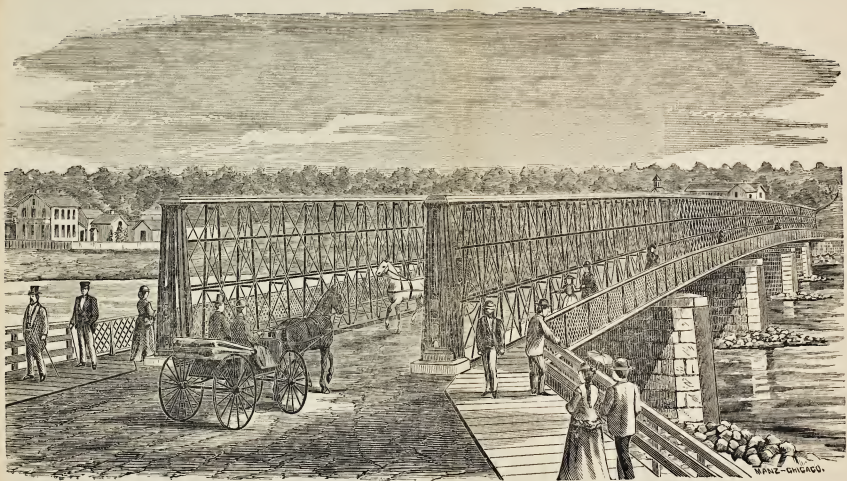
April 17, 1858. Mrs. Macready gave three of her highly intellectual entertainments in Dixon.

April 18, 1858. The adoption of the City Charter was defeated by a vote of 211 to 219.

Sunday, April 23, 1858, at one o'clock A. M. the jewelry store of S. A. Bancroft, in A. T. Murphy's building, Main street, caught on fire destroying all the goods not in the safe and damaging the building considerably. It was with diffculty that the fire was kept in control.

June 3, 1858. Rock river is at this time swollen to overflowing banks. It is higher than we have ever known it before. Both the wagon bridges at this place have suffered in consequence of the rise. The free bridge, but a small portion of which was carried away, will be repaired immediately. Stone will be taken by our citizens to build a new bridge





THE BRIDGE BEFORE THE DISASTER.

in place of the one swept away at the foot of Galena street.

June 10, 1858. A Reading room is opened on the second floor of Union block and placed under charge of the Young Men's Literary Association.

On the evenings of July 3d and 5th, 1858, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was performed in Dixon.

In the summer of 1858, Mr. W. C. Van Osdell erected a three-story cash and blind factory in the west end of Deucet Town. In 1862 it was converted into a sorghum mill which ran about a year when the building was abandoned and a few years after was torn down.

Shabbona House, leased by Crockett & Dale.

July 14, 1858. Lee County Agricultural Society organized with the following officers: W. H. Van Epps, Pres.; James C. Mead, Rec. Sec.; James A. Hawley, Fin. Sec.; Wm. Entler, Treas.; A. R. Whitney, J. T. Little, F. W. Coe, A. Brown, Wm. Uhl, L. Wood, S. H. Whitmore, Hiram Terry, and John Moore, Ex. Com.

July 24, 1858. A new paper, the "Dixon Weekly Monitor," is started by Charles Kellogg, Jr.

July 23, 1858. Steamer "Rockford" arrived here from Rockford for the first time.

In 1858 the Dixon Collegiate Institute was reorganized under the auspices of A. M. Gow.

In Aug. 1858, a High School department was established in the old M. E. Church on Second street, and A. H. Fitch was elected Principal. A. M. Gow was employed as Superintendent of Schools, and James Gow as Principal of the High school, in 1859. The school then consisted of five departments and had an enrollment of about four hundred. These gentlemen continued in charge of the school until 1862, when the present Principal, E. C. Smith, was elected to act, at once as Superintendent of Schools and Principal of the High school, in which capacity he has labored ever since.

The following is a list of graduates from the High School since the adoption of a regular course of study:

1864. W. H. Boardman, C. A. Howell, Madge Brooks, Rebecca Story.

1865. W. L. Davis, S. G. Patrick, and Joseph Goble.

1867. Henry Brooks, H. J. Stephens, and Annette Simonson.

1868. Nathan McKenney, John Hine, Adella Hamter, Libbie Kimball, Mary Pickard, Mary Stephens, Ella Williams, and Emma Williams.

1870. Mattie Barlow, Lila Fargo, and Lizzie Gardner.

1871. Emmett Julien, Irvin Lewis, Henry L. Timper, Sophia Barlow, Oella Drew, Mary Dickick, Ella Harch, Mary T. Little, Ella J. Pratt, and Jennie Williams.

1872. Anna Fargo, Julia Gilman, Kate Jerome, Anna Murphy, Mattie E. Davis, Estella Osborne, Alice Kerr, and Ed Moree.

1873. Chas. Van Arman, Fred L. Shaw, J. H. Edwards, Horace Fleck, Martin Currier, Carrie Kells, Fannie Murphy, and Emma Ayres.

1875. Abner Barlow, Frank Judd, Sherwood Strong, and Herbert O. Smith.

1876. Georgia Herrick, Mary Dreesenchen, and Lizzie Miller.

1877. Ida Strong, Dora Eaton and Mattie Sterling.

1878. George Vann, Chas. Morey, Geo. Bowles, Fannie Roebrook, Emma Gilbert, Idell De Land, Carrie Pratt, and Cornelia Daley.

1879. Joseph Petersberger, Will Sterling, John Cropsey, Ed T. Smith, Matilda Wobozahu, and Sophia De Land.

1880. Altha Simonson, Jennie Hollenbeck, Homer A. Judd, and Corn B. Maxwell.

Oct. 29, 1884. Lee County Fair held on the new fair grounds near the cemetery, for the first time.

Nov. 10, 1858. Martha Washington Temperance Society organized with the following officers: Mrs. Judge Wood, President; Mrs. O. F. Ayres, Vice President; Mrs. Stephen Williams, Secretary; Mrs. Forsyth, Secretary; Mrs. E. B. Baker, Miss Nettie Dickson, and Mrs. Wheeler, Executive Committee.

Dr. Dio Lewis lecturing in Dixon at this time.

Nov. 10, about sixty young men try their speed in a great foot race. J. W. Hollenbeck takes first prize, and A. H. Fitch, second; time 130 feet in five seconds.

In the fall 1858, C. Godfrey & Sons, who were then proprietors of the mill formerly owned by Brooks & Dalley, completed the building known as the "Farmers Mills."

Nov. 24, 1858. The first number of the "Dixon Advertiser" appears, edited by E. B. Sillies, L. W. Atherton, and J. V. Eustace. These gentlemen bought the "Monitor" office—that paper having failed.

Nov. 30, 1858. The temperance ladies visit the saloons, requesting the keepers to stop selling intoxicating liquors in our town.

Dec. 4, 1858. City Charter was adopted at a special election.

Dec. 23, 1858. Vol. 1 No. 1, "Life in Dixon Illustrated" appears, edited by "Johannes Elongatins, 141even, Broadway, Dixon, Ills." This number contains a series of illustrations of "Needlework" in his morning exercises recommended by Dio Lewis. It also contains illustrations of the "Capture of the Republican Battery," and a "Krazy Kiss escaping from the Marines," and an "Allegorical view of the removal of the County seat."

Feb. 10, 1859. By request, Dr. Oliver Everett reads his paper upon the subject of Geology entitled "Foot prints on the Prairies," in Exchange hall.

Feb. 17, 1859. Fred Douglas lectures in Dixon. Feb. 20, 1859. The dam became so clogged up with floating ice that the weight caused it to give

away. Descending—ice and dam together—against the new bridge erected only four months since, it swept away two bents at once crash; and later, two more were taken. The bridge will be repaired immediately, in order to have it ready for the next descent; in the mean time the North-slides, by going three miles and paying a quarter can reach town over the free bridge.

March 3, 1839. B. F. Shaw retires and I. S. Boardman becomes editor and proprietor of the Telegraph and Telegrapher.

March 7, 1839. The city was organized by the election of city officers. The Aldermen elected were W. H. Van Epps and Joseph Crawford for the 1st ward; H. E. Williams and R. H. Robinson for 2d ward; William Berge and A. A. Benjamin for 3d ward; W. A. Holsington and William Penick for the 4th ward. A. P. Curry was elected City Marshal and C. V. Tenney, Public Justice. Col. John Dement the Mayor elect, failing to qualify, Joseph Crawford was appointed acting Mayor by the council and an election was ordered for April 4, when A. C. Steadman, was chosen to the vacancy of that office. The result upon the license question, stood 227 against and 171 for license. A. C. Steadman was again elected Mayor 1840. Those following were G. L. Herrick in 1841, Jas. B. Charters in 1842, Oliver Everett in 1843, Jas. K. Edsall in 1844, Person Cheney, Jr. in 1845 and 1846, Andrew McPherson in 1847 and 1848, John Dement from 1849 to 1852 inclusive, Joseph Crawford in 1853, 1854 and 1855, James A. Hawley in 1856 and 1857, John Dement in 1858 and 1859, and J. V. Thomas in 1860.

In August 1859, Cheney & Co., vacate their Steam Boiling mill on 3d street and start a mill in the new building erected by Messers Godfrey & Co., which they purchased of Godfrey, Jerome & Co., for \$35,000.

April 23, 1859. Considerable excitement was occasioned by the discovery that the ground under the two factories and Brookner's saw mill at north end of the dam was washing out to such an extent that the buildings were slowly moving into twenty feet of water to the certain destruction of the toll bridge, just finished. The factories were hastily moved out of danger and the saw mill stripped of every thing so that it was clear that could not be moved was set on fire and burned to save the bridge.

July 25, 1859. B. E. Deyo's house burned down; loss \$1,562.

Nachusa Chapter, No. 26, received its dispensation July 29, 1859, and its Charter Sept. 20. High Priest, Francis A. McCell.

Aug. 10, 1859. W. H. Stanton takes charge of the Advertiser.

Aug. 19, 1859. The North Dixon depot is now opened. G. W. Birtow is operating for G. L. Herrick as station agent.

R. P. Robinson leases the foundry and C. S. Brown the machine shop at the water power.

In 1859 Col. John Dement removed his plow factory to the water power.

Aug. 23, 1859. Active operation commenced in erecting a free bridge at the foot of Galena street to cost \$142,000. Z. H. Luckey, contractor.

Sept. 15, 1859. The end of Joseph Gates stone ware, house near the Central depot, burst out by the pressure of the grain, causing much damage.

Oct. 14, 1859. Between two or three o'clock A. M. a fire was started by an unknown incendiary between the stores of Mr. Harwood and Roberts & McKay. The fire burned in all seventeen buildings, covering ground for the distance of a half a block on both sides of Main street, extending west from the corner of Hennepin street. Among the buildings burned was the old original school house which had been removed from the lot where D. W. McKenney's residence now stands several years before and at this time was used as a store room. The losses were

	Loss.	Ins.
Roberts & McKay, hatters,	\$2,500	\$1,500
W. McL. Wadsworth, furniture,	2,000	1,000
Queen's City building,	6,000	5,500
James McKenney grocery,	1,000	800
Galling & Co., grocery,	4,000	1,500
Robinson, Ellis & Co. building,	1,200	800
D. B. Ayres, merchant,	4,000	
Mrs. Dicksen, milliner,	1,400	
Mrs. Harwood, milliner,	1,400	
—Barry, house,	350	
Ellis Hoop, meat market,	250	
—Reed, shoe maker,	200	
Mrs. Moore, dwelling,	800	
Dumpley & Finch, artists,	600	
Chas. Hallard, jeweler,	150	
S. S. Williams, shoe room,	1,500	
Henry Bates, furniture,	100	
E. B. Stiles, clothing,	1,000	
H. Leonard,	100	
Fanny Dixon, hair,	100	
K. Bartow, sewing machines,	800	

J. K. Remington met with considerable loss in paint, etc. S. Van Adams and others suffered from tearing down buildings to stop the progress of the flames, and removing goods to save them.

Nov. 21, 1859. I. S. Boardman buys the Advertiser.

Dec. 23, 1859. J. R. Bond becomes associated with I. S. Boardman as editor of the Republican and Telegraph.

Jan. 25, 1860. The Machine shop of Col. Dement opposite the Dixon Mills was burned out; all the machinery was ruined by the fire. The foundry in the rear of the machine shop was saved by hard work. The loss was \$25,000, no insurance. The building was repaired and made ready for occupancy within a couple of months, but on account of the injury to the walls the machine shop was lowered one story.

Feb. 29, 1860. Chas. Godfrey & Son become proprietors of the Farmers Mills, Cheney & Son retiring.

March 23, 1860. The paper of this date mentions the Hat and Cap Factory of Roberts & McKay; Carr Mill Manufactured by R. P. Robb-

son, and the Harrow by Platt & Son and John Wortman; also Leather Manufacture of Morse & Benjamin, as growing in importance.

April 19, 1860. Cheney & Co. open the Waverly House at the Air Line depot.

April 5, 1860. \*Dixon Improvement Association formed for the purpose of improving and beautifying the city, by the planting trees, &c.

June 6, 1860. A meeting of the citizens called at Union hall to institute methods of relief for the sufferers from the tornado that passed over the country on the 3d inst. causing great destruction of life and property.

Aug. 13, 1860. The carpenter shop of Herrick & Gordon, with four chests of tools, was damaged by fire to the extent of \$350.

Sept. 3, 1860. William H. Van Epps became President of the State Agricultural Society.

Nov. 8, 1860. The State Homeopathic Association met in Dixon.

Jan. 1, 1861. The opening of the Free bridge is an event in the history of Dixon worthy of remembrance. On New Year's Eve, a large "Free Bridge Party" was held at the Nachusa House, which was so successful that the arrange that had delayed the completion of the work was arranged. The object was accomplished so that at 4 P. M. of the 1st, "all the world and the rest of mankind," headed by our Mayor and Council in sleighs and carriages, passed over under the inspiring influence of music and cannon.

Jan. 17, 1861. Business in town wears a better appearance since the completion of the free bridge. The mills of Wm. Uhl and Beckers & Underwood are doing a splendid business; the Plow factory of Col. Dement is turning out plows rapidly; the Foundry is in successful blast. Merchants and others are busy and every thing shows a cheerful aspect, notwithstanding the gloomy forebodings of some who fear fatal consequences to the business of the country from the southern civil commotions.

Feb. 27, 1861. Home concert given by the Lowe Brothers. The company was composed of J. M. Kelley, Charles E. Lowe, Thomas H. Lowe, and B. Pomeroy.

March 7, 1861. A fire originated about two o'clock A. M. in Sprague's Boot and Shoe store, and from there it extended to the small building owned by Mr. Dyer, and occupied as a custom boot and shoe shop, by E. Giles, and the stone building on the corner of Main and Galena streets occupied by Mr. Roberts as a Hat store. These three buildings were entirely consumed before the fire could be subdued. E. W. Hine's residence was only saved by the utmost exertion of the citizens. The building occupied by Mr. Sprague was owned by J. B. Charters, and was insured for \$400, the stone building was owned by Champ Fuller and was not insured. Loss about \$3,500; insurance about \$4,000.

April 17, 1861. WAR FEELING IN DIXON.—While we are writing, the people with out distinction of party, are in council. Great enthusiasm prevails. A company is forming. The action of the administration is to be awaited.

April 18, 1861. The building erected for the Collegiate Institute, purchased Ret. O. W. Cooly, of Wisconsin, for the establishment of a Female Seminary.

April 19, 1861. James Van Arman is repairing the dam. The breach is almost in the middle of the river; a rope has been stretched across the river at the foot of the island, from which the boat loaded with stone, is lowered to the breach and unloaded.

April 22, 1861. The first Dixon company of volunteers met at their armory and elected A. B. Gorgas, Captain, Henry T. Noble First, and Henry Dement Second Lieutenants; Benjamin Gilman First, and O. M. Pugh, Second Sergeant. The company the same day adopted a flag opposite the Mayor's office, bearing the motto "The Union Forever."

Two other companies, the Dixon Cadets and the Dixon Blues, were organized within a few days, but their services were not needed on account of the regiments under the first call being full. Nearly all the members of these two companies afterwards enlisted again and went to the war.

April 23, 1861. The ladies of Dixon presented a handsome banner to Captain Gorgas' company in front of the Court house. Miss Mary Williams [Mrs. H. D. Dement] delivered the presentation address.

May 9, The regiment of the 2d Congressional District went into camp on the Fair grounds in Dixon. The regiment was composed of 500 men. The next day after going into camp the following regimental officers were elected: John B. Wyman, Colonel; B. F. Parks, Lieutenant Colonel; A. B. Gorgas, Major. The staff consisted of A. W. Pitts, Commissary; W. C. Henderson, Quarter Master; J. L. McCleary, Asst. Quarter Master; H. T. Porter, Adjutant; Dr. S. C. Pinner, Surgeon; Dr. D. W. Young, Asst. Surgeon; Rev. J. C. Miller, Chaplain. The drafting of postboys by the companies resulted as follows:

Dixon,	Company A
Stirling,	" D. R. Bashuel,
Amley,	" M. H. Bessinger,
McNee,	" G. C. McLean,
Sandwich,	" S. W. Partridge,
Sycamore,	" Z. B. Mayo,
Morrison,	" G. W. Cole,
Aurora,	" —————,
Chicago,	" S. W. Wadsworth,
De Page,	" W. Biancher,

June 1, 1861. The ladies presented company A with uniforms made by their own hands.

Sunday, June 16, 1861, the 15th Regiment Ill. now Volunteers took the cars for Caseyville, twelve miles from St. Louis. The officers of Co. A, were Henry T. Noble, Captain; Henry D. De-

nant, First Lieutenant; Benjamin Gilman, Second Lieutenant; George L. Allen First, C. J. Plinkham Second, H. Van Manton Third, C. L. Heath Fourth, and Samuel Uhl, Fifth Sergeant.

June 20, 1831. The "Volunteer Aid Association" secured subscriptions to the amount of \$4,035, as a fund for the benefit of families of absent volunteers.

July 25, 1831. Silas Nobis, Esq. accepted the Colony of the 2d Regiment of Cavalry.

Sept. 2, 1831. The 34th Illinois Volunteers leave Dixon for the army. E. N. Kirk, Colonel; Amos Bosworth, Lieutenant Colonel; C. N. Levanau, Major. The companies leaving at this time were Morrison, Sterling, Dixon, Franklin, and Grand Detach. Officers of Dixon company were Truman L. Pratt, Captain; W. S. Wood First, and S. B. Dexter, Second Lieutenant; T. D. Lake, Orderly Sergeant; Francis Forsyth, D. C. Clayton, Charles Eccles, H. A. Jeffs, Sergeants. J. H. Dole, Corporals.

Oct. 1, 1831. A camp for recruiting and organizing troops established at Dixon on the bank of the river west of the mill road. Col. W. H. Hayden, commander of Post; Col. John Dement, commander of Encampment.

Oct. 3, 1831. The house of H. Logan was struck by lightning and burnt to the ground. Loss \$760.

Dec. 5, "Dement Phalanx" go into winter quarters in the stone building erected for plow works near the depot.

Jan. 1, 1832. Col. Dement resigns, and Lieut. Col. Jones is appointed commander at the encampment of the 43d Regiment.

Jan. 14, 1832. At an election of officers of the Artillery company just raised, held at their Barracks, John Cheney was elected Captain. J. H. Tison First, H. L. Bell Second, and Samuel S. Smith, Third Lieutenant.

Feb. 3, 1832. The 46th Regiment, encamped in Dement Barracks over winter, take the cars for Springfield to join the remainder of their regiment. Officers of Company "H," John Stevens Captain; John Hughes First Lieutenant; Frederick Pike, Second Lieutenant; Thomas Piermont, Third Sergeant; John Murphy, Chas. Mason, Ebenezer McCallough, De Villa Segura, Sergeants.

Feb. 19, 1832. Great rejoicing over the news of the capture Fort Donelson. Scores of flags were thrown to the breeze.

March 28, 1832. Ladies of Dixon form a soldiers aid society.

April 17, 1832. Funeral of Major Levanau, killed at the battle of Pittsburgh Landing. Same day occurred the funeral of Captain John Stevens, who died from wounds received in the same battle.

April 21, 1832. Funeral of Amos Bosworth, Col. of the 34th regiment, who died from disease contracted in the army.

April 29, 1832. Union block was lowered one story, the walls being regarded as unsafe for large assemblies after the fire on the adjacent lot in 1830.

June 10, 1832. A new company was organized in Dixon, with the following officers: James W. Reardon, Captain; E. B. Baker First, and E. P. Bennett, Second Lieutenant; John D. Heaton, L. M. Keyms, Edward Perkins, Philo C. Williams, and George Black, Sergeants.

Sept. 4, 1832. The 76th Illinois Volunteers in Camp Dixon, on the bank of the river, are mustered into service by Adjutant General Fuller. The regiment elected the following officers: George Byron, Colonel; John E. Bennett, Lieutenant Colonel; W. M. Kilgore, Major; Jerome Hollenbeck, Adjutant; G. W. Phillips, Sergeant; J. C. Corlies, Asst. Surgeon; J. E. Remington, Quarter Master. The regiment was made up of volunteers from Lee and Whiteville counties—five companies from each. The officers of Co. A. were James A. Watson, Captain; E. Giles, First Lieutenant; Wm. Parker, Second Lieutenant; F. O. Headley, A. K. Buckalo, Horace Judson, W. J. Cogswell, J. A. Hill, Sergeants. The regiment left for Louisville, Ky. Sept. 27th.

In the fall of 1832 the Illinois Central Company built an iron bridge in place of the wooden truss work across the river, upon the old piers. This was accomplished without stopping a single train.

March 5, 1833. Funeral of Lieut. Benjamin Gilman, who died from disease contracted while in the military service.

March 12, 1833. Contract given to John H. Cropley for repairing the mill-dam. The consideration was \$10,000.

May 21, 1833. John V. Eastace was appointed Provost Marshal for this Congressional District. Summer of 1833, Chas. Godfrey added two stories to the building now occupied by the grist mill, and fax factory. This building was erected by Col. John Dement in 1837, and was originally designed for a machine shop, but for several years had been used as a saw and mill.

June 23, 1834. A society for the purpose of detecting and bringing to justice thieves, and for reclaiming stolen property, was organized under the name of "Society of Vigilance." "Quaker City" building was erected by Isaac Jones in the summer of 1833.

July 5, 1833. The news of the fall of Vicksburg causes much rejoicing. A delegation numbering 530 arrived from Ambury and Sublette. Flags were displayed in every direction, and at night there was a grand illumination.

Sept. 8, 1833. The "Dixon Seminary" was opened in the College building by S. G. Lathrop and M. M. Tookie.

Sept. 18, 1833. The teachers of the public schools in North and South Dixon form a "Dixon Teachers Association." J. V. Thomas, President, W. W. Davis, Secretary.

Nov. 28, 1833. Board of Supervisors of Lee county offer a bounty of \$100 to every accepted volunteer from the county.

Dec. 1, 1833. "Councils of Royal and Select Masons" was organized under dispensation at Masonic Hall. The officers were James A. Hawley, Thrice Illustrious Grand Master; A. H. Whitbey, Deputy Grand Master; L. S. Boardman, Principal Conductor of the Work; W. A. Levanau, Captain of the Guards; Joseph Ball, Reader; H. Morgan, Treasurer; H. S. Blend, Soutinel.

Jan. 2, 1834. The House of John Bailey was burned down. Loss on building and furniture \$13,900; Insurance \$800.

Jan. 21, 1831. The 34th Regiment return to Dixon, 34 strong, on a thirty d. y. faring. Citizens give them a public reception.

Feb. 11, 1834. "Dixon Harmonic Club," consisting of Misses Goodno, Anna Wadsworth, and Nellie Holt, and Messrs J. C. Ayres and A. J. Brinker, sing at Union Hall.

April 21, 1834. Messrs Fargo, Pratt & Co., commence the manufacture of platform scales in Dixon.

June 16, 1834. The name of the Dixon Air Line road changed to "Chicago and North Western" rail road, under new management.

June 16, 1834. The 140th Regiment, which had been in camp at the Barracks near the depot, for about six weeks, depart for Springfield where they are immediately arrayed into service and ordered to Paducah, Ky. Regimental officers were Lorenzo Whitney, Colonel; M. W. Smith, Lieutenant Colonel; W. O. Evans, Major; L. E. B. Hoyt, Adjutant; Geo. W. Bishop, Quartermaster. Officers of Dixon company were E. Giles, Captain; Joseph Ball, First Lieutenant; Nelson Skinner, Second Lieutenant; Geo. N. Northway, Orderly Sergeant.

Jan. 21, 1834. Company "A" of the 13th Regiment came home from the war, and were received at the depot by a large concourse of people and escorted to the Court House square, where a sumptuous dinner was spread for the "sober boys."

Nov. 29, 1834. A number of young Men in the public schools form a "Patrotic Club" for the purpose of aiding soldiers' widows and families in need of such help as they could render by chopping fire wood, doing chores, etc. The officers of the society were Carlos Burr, President; Lafayette Davis, Vice President; Goodwin Patrick, Secretary; Sherwood Dixon, Assistant Secretary; Chas. P. Gilles, Treasurer.

Jan. 21, 1835. The Lee County National Bank was organized with a capital of \$10,000. Joseph Crawford, Joseph Utley, S. S. Williams, E. W. Pomeroy, Josiah Little, Jr. Abijah Powers, and Wm. Uhl, were chosen Directors. Joseph Crawford was elected President, Joseph Utley Vice President, S. C. Ellis Cashier, and John Cole, Assistant.

Jan. 28, 1835. "Dixon Draft Association" formed. Isaac Jones President, Jas A. Hawley Treasurer, W. W. Davis Secretary.

Feb. 8, 1835. A dwelling house in Dement Town owned by Col. Dement, occupied by Jacob Pifer, was burned down about 3 a. m. Mr. Pifer, on trying to save some valuables, was burned with the building.

March 31, 1835, the "Dixon Musical Association," consisting of thirty members, performed the Oration of "Queen Esther," at Union Hall.

April 14, 1835. Sadness was thrown over the whole town by the news of the assassination of the President, Abraham Lincoln. A large meeting of citizens was held in front of the Court house, at which resolutions were adopted, appropriately expressing the sorrow of the people.

In the summer of 1835, Col. Dement erected part of the large stone building now occupied by the plow factory of Chas. H. Curtis. It was soon after extended to its present dimensions of 89 by 140 feet, four stories high.

Aug. 2, 1835, a Woollen Mill was started by F. Mc Martin in the building enlarged by Mr. Godfrey, the year previous. At the close of 1835 Mr. Mc Martin also started a Grist Mill in the same building.

Jan. 2, 1836. Paint shop of W. J. Daley on Hennepin Street was burned down. Loss about \$300.

March 21, 1835. A Lodge of Good Templars, No. 726, was organized in Dixon. The Lodge surrendered its charter in the Spring of 1838, and the active members united with the Sons of Temperance.

May 10, 1836, a drove of nearly one hundred head of cattle concentrated on a span of the bridge near the middle of the river, and the span gave way precipitating the entire drove into the river—killing nearly all.

During the year of 1836 Joseph Utley's building, the Key Stone House, A. S. Dinick and Wm. Smith's building, and "Pinckney's" block, were erected. The brick School House in Dement Town was erected the same year.

June 16, 1836, Dixon Commemorative, No. 31, K. T. was organized under dispensation, and chartered Oct. 23, 1836. The charter members were James Andrew Hawley, William Anderson Levanau, Charles Richards, Daniel Destin, Avery W. Sawyer, Nathan P. Sturdevant, Alexr. R. Whitney, Peter C. Rooney, and George H. Sampson.

June 23, 1836. The Masonic fraternity held a grand celebration in Dixon. Lodges were present from Ambury, Lee Centre, Melvin's Grove, Roselle, Franklin, Oregon and Grand Detour.

July 23, 1836, a Division of the "Grand Army of the Republic" was organized in Dixon.

Aug. 9, 1836, the "Bucklin Fire Manufacturing Company" was incorporated, with a capital of \$100,000. A large stone factory, 40 by 140 feet, was erected, and in May, 1837, the company commenced operation in their new building, but the business failed in less than a year from defects in the working of the Bucklin patent. In January



1893, John Stanley and Joseph Ogil bought some of the tools and commenced the Dixon manufactory of hand cut files.

In the summer of 1895, Col. Dement erected the fax factory building, it then was 43 by 64 feet. The manufacture of faxing was commenced the next February, by Jerome & Dowling. About 1870, Col. Dement increased the building to its present length of 143 feet.

Oct. 28, 1861. The Presbyterian church was dedicated. Sermon was preached by Rev. W. H. Huesh, who had been the first pastor of the congregation.

Feb. 7, 1857, the name of the weekly paper, "Republican and Telegraph," was changed by dropping the word "Republican."

The Wagon and Carriage Factory of Cheney & Mason was started in the spring of 1867.

The Masonic block, Riley & Wedge's building, S. W. Jones' building on the corner of Main and Jefferson streets, and Van Epps brick building adjoining Exchange block on the east, were erected in 1867.

June 2, 1867. Schuyler Colfax lectured in Dixon; subject "Across the Continent."

July 1, 1867, the Bulk-head of the main frame of the Hydraulic works gave way, carrying with it part of the timbers supporting the platform in front of the mills. The damage was repaired in a much more permanent form than it was before, at a cost of about \$2,000.

In August 1867, Messrs Severance & Cheney commenced the manufacture of platform scales. In July, 1869, John T. Cheney & John P. Hutchinson became the manufacturers of the scales, which at this time began to be known as the "Victor."

In the fall of 1867, the Court House was improved and enlarged to its present size, at a cost of \$17,000.

Dec. 2, 1867, work was commenced in rebuilding the wagon bridge across the river, by James Watson.

Feb. 14, 1868. The "Dixon Herald," a new weekly newspaper, edited by A. C. Bardwell, made its appearance.

March 7, 1868, the Free bridge was taken out by the ice and a very high freshet. One of the piers of the rail road bridge was battered down by the ice the following night, and two spans fell into the river. About 120 feet of the south end of the dam was also wrecked out by this freshet. A temporary wagon bridge was erected within a few weeks, and the rail road bridge was immediately repaired with wooden trestle work so that trains crossed over in a couple of days after the accident.

May 23, 1868, occurred the first Remount of the 11th Illinois Infantry Regiment.

June 24, 1868, the new Masonic Hall was dedicated. The ceremonies and celebration were participated in by twelve or fifteen visiting lodges.

Sept. 1, 1868. Messrs Kuepper & Wells took charge of the "Dixon Summary."

July 9, 1868, the "Lee County Democrat" made its appearance, owned by E. Giles, and edited by S. C. Postlewait.

Oct. 21, 1868, T. W. Cummins and H. T. Noble commenced repairing and enlarging the old factory buildings between the depots, preparatory to moving the Plow Works from Grand Detour to this location. The firm commenced operation the following spring.

Dec. 2, 1868, the "Western Knitting Factory" was established in the Erie Company's building, by Messrs Melroy & Crane. A few months later the factory passed into the possession of W. H. Godfrey & J. B. Charters.

Dec. 2, 1868. The "St James" Hotel was opened by H. E. Gedney, in the building known as the "Shubbon House."

In the fall and winter of 1868-9, the large Public School, established in North Dixon was erected. The dedicatory exercises took place January 15, 1869, at which Richard Edwards, of the State Normal, delivered an address. The erection of this building cost \$30,000. The grade system of instruction was adopted in this district after the schools entered the new building; J. V. Thomas was Principal at this time, and he was followed in 1874 by Mr. Halgse, J. L. Hartwell in 1875, Julius Lynde in 1877, and C. O. Sander in the fall of 1878.

The first record we have of a Superintendent of the North Side schools was L. H. Williams in 1869, those following were S. W. Wood, N. J. Gilbert, J. A. Flagg, and J. V. Thomas in the fall of 1869.

Jan. 21, 1869. The Trussell bridge was dedicated. The occasion was celebrated by a procession one mile long headed by Father Dixon in a carriage; he was followed by other old settlers, Dixon Cornet Band, the City Council, and citizens in wagons and carriages. This bridge was built upon principal cut stone abutments and piers, at a cost of \$75,000, and was five spans, of 125 feet each, in length; the road way was 18 feet wide, with a sidewalk on each side, five feet wide.

Feb. 14, 1869, the Lutheran church was dedicated. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. G. A. Bowers.

April 22, 1869, Isaac Boardman retired from the office of Mayor, and was succeeded by his sons John D. and Will H. Boardman.

In the summer of 1869, the new Public School building of District No. 1, was erected at a cost of \$30,000. The opening exercises were held on the evening of September 25, of that year.

Oct. 1, 1869, the corner stone of the Baptist church was laid.

Nov. 29, 1869, Prof. Seylie, of Amherst College, lectured in Dixon.

Dec. 2, 1869, the "Dixon Telegraph" and the "Dixon Weekly Herald" were united under the

name of the "Telegraph and Herald." A. C. Bardwell assumed the editorship and W. H. Boardman the business management.

Dec. 4, 1869, Mrs. Elizabeth Cary Stanton, lectured at Union Hall.

Jan. 18, 1870, B. F. Shaw became associated with A. C. Bardwell as editor of the "Telegraph and Herald."

Jan. 24, 1870, the Dixon Hose Company, No. 1, was organized with about thirty members. The officers elected were Henry A. Day, Foreman; S. A. Sutton, First Assistant; J. B. Eddy, Second Assistant, Palmer Atkins, Secretary; Ezra Becker, Treasurer.

Jan. 26, 1870, Hon. Henry Vincent delivered his lecture, "Oliver Cromwell," in Dixon.

Feb. 4, 1870, the Father Mathews Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society was organized with the following officers: Daniel Curran, President; John Fane, Recording Secretary; Win. Cusick, Corresponding Secretary; Peter Coffey, Financial Secretary; Owen Smith, Treasurer; Francis Doran, Marshal; Rev. J. W. Kennedy, Homage Secretary.

Jan. 31, 1870, the Monitor Hook and Ladder Company organized by the election of the following officers: W. N. Johnson, Foreman; Charles Chandler First, and W. O. Loveland, Second Assistant; C. H. Noble, Secretary; J. B. Pomeroy, Treasurer.

Feb. 17, 1870, Fred Douglas lectured in the Court House.

March 27, 1870, Peter McKenney one of the oldest settlers in Dixon, died at the residence of his son J. H. McKenney.

May 17, 1870, the State Medical Association met in Dixon to hold a three days session.

June 2, 1870, the Dixon Park Association was organized. The Association held its first fair on the new grounds west of the city.

June 28, 1870, a town meeting was held to vote on the question of subscribing \$50,000 to the stock of the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis road, providing the company built a road through Dixon. There was 529 majority in favor.

July 7, 1870, at a Universalist Centenary held in the M. E. church, measures were instituted that resulted in establishing a Universalist church in Dixon. The society held services in Union Hall for awhile, and from there they went to Tilton's Hall, on Galena street, which they used until their new church was completed. Rev. H. V. Chase was the first pastor and he remained five years; he was succeeded in December, 1876 by Rev. B. F. Rogers who served as pastor for one year, and about the beginning of 1877 Mr. Chase was again called to the pastorate of this church.

In 1870 the census of Dixon was 4,054, and of the County, 87,223.

Oct. 27, 1870, Rebecca Lodge, No. 23, was organized, with the following charter members: A. Platt, G. L. Herrick, H. K. Strong, Francis For-

syth, Constantine Wild, Phoebe Pratt, Julia Herrick, Mary A. Strong, Lucy A. Forsyth, and Barbara Wild.

Jan. 3, 1869, about 3 a. m. the Grocery store of Jones & Powers, corner Main and Galena streets, was discovered to be on fire; the progress of the flames was checked before much damage was done. Loss \$160.

Jan. 12, 1871, the City Hall building, erected for the use of the fire department, was completed.

Dec. 1, 1870, the North-western Wind Mill Works of Thomas C. Little & Co., on the North side of the river, commenced operation.

Jan. 24 and 25, 1871, this section was visited by one of the most severe snow storms in the "memory of the oldest settlers." The roads in every direction were drifted so badly that in many places they were impassable to teams for several days.

Jan. 25, 1871, the "Rock River Farmer," a monthly journal, published by W. M. Kennedy, made its appearance.

Friday night, March 3, 1871, a fire broke out in a building on the north side of Main street, four doors east of Peoria, occupied by a family by the name of Schindler as a saloon and home. This and the three frame buildings on the west, were entirely consumed, also a barn belonging to Drs. Wynn & Paine, in the rear. The fire spread to F. C. McKenney's livery stable, fifteen feet east of the saloon; all the horses and carriages were saved. The brick buildings east of the livery stable were only saved by the almost efforts of the fire department. The corner building and the one next to it were owned by F. C. McKenney, and the other two by Mrs. James McKenney. Total loss was about \$4,000.

March 9, 1871, Nachusa Encampment No. 115. I. O. O. F. was organized under dispensation, received charter October 10th. Charter members were J. E. Remington, H. F. Hamilton, W. J. Carpenter, E. A. Snow, F. P. Beck, J. E. Camp, and J. H. Judd.

In 1871, the fire proof addition to the Court House, for the use of the Recorder, was built at a cost of \$3,000.

June 1, 1871. With the issue of this date of the Telegraph and Herald, A. C. Bardwell retired and B. F. Shaw became editor.

Sept. 17, 1871, the corner stone of St. Lukes church was laid by Rev. John Wilkinson, who was rector of this parish from 1858 to 1863. The church was opened for services September 13, 1872.

Sept. 13, 1871, the Dixon National Bank was organized by the election of the following directors: H. B. Jenks, H. S. Lucas, John Dement, Quarrus Ely, and Jas B. Charters. H. B. Jenks, was elected President, John Dement, Vice President, and H. S. Lucas, Cashier.

Sept. 28, 1871, Philip Phillips, the sacred singer, sang in the M. E. Church.

Oct. 10, 1871, the citizens were busy all day preparing provisions and other necessaries to send to the sufferers from the great Chicago fire.

Nov. 16, 1871, W. M. Kennedy became proprietor and Eugene Plackney editor of the "Democrat."

Nov. 30, 1871, the St James Hotel was burned down. The insurance on the building and furniture was about \$24,500.

In Dec. 1871, the 18th Annual Meeting of the Illinois Teachers' Association was held in Dixon. During the session, lectures and addresses were delivered by the President, J. H. Blodgett, and Col. L. H. Potter, Rev. D. L. Leonard, Hon. Newton Bateman, and Hon. J. M. Gregory.

During the winter of 1871-2, water mains were laid from the rotary pump to the corner of Main and Galena streets, at a cost of \$400; the work was finished the 15th of January, 1872.

Feb. 23, 1872, the Philharmonic Society, assisted by the Baker Family, rendered the oratorio of "Queen Esther."

In March, 1872, measures were initiated by the Howe Company for organizing their library.

March 6, 1872, the name of the "Dixon Democrat" was changed to "Dixon Sun."

The new jail was built in 1872.

June 23, 1873, the corner stone of the Catholic Church was laid by Rt. Rev. Bishop Foley, of Chicago.

July 28, 1873, the Baptist Church was dedicated. Sermon in the morning was delivered by Rev. Mr. Basch. In the evening J. A. S. Smith, D. D.

Aug. 7, 1873, Tucker Lodge, No. 433, I. O. O. F. was instituted in Odd Fellows Hall. Wm. Smith, O. M.; Louis Stephen, U. M.; A. Frenzel, Secretary; C. Wild, Treasurer.

Sept. 22, 1873, Prof. Lumis takes charge of the Dixon Seminary.

Jan. 40, 1883, the Young Men's Christian Association opened a reading room, on the second floor of Masonic block.

March 4, 1873, the Lee county farmers held an Anti-monopoly meeting in Union Hall.

March 12, 1873, the interior of the building and machinery of the Kauting Mills were entirely destroyed by fire; the roof of the Flax Factory was also burned off and considerable machinery injured by fire and water. It was with the greatest difficulty that the fire was gotten under control. Loss of the Kauting Mills was \$30,000, and in the Flax Mills \$5,000.

April 21, 1873, the residence of E. B. Stiles on Main street, west of the arch, was damaged by fire to the extent of \$200.

Sunday May 4, 1873, The Truesdel Iron bridge fell, precipitating about two hundred men, women and children, who were witnessing a baptismal ceremony taking place just below the bridge, into the stream without a moments notice; thirty-seven persons were drowned, or killed by portions of the structure falling upon them; forty-seven were seriously and five mortally injured. The

bridge was twisted and broken from end to end, and hung from the piers an appalling sight in itself.

Below we give a list of the killed:

Miss Katy Sterling,	Mrs. Thomas Wade,
" Melissa Wilhelm,	" Henry Shuman,
" Maggie O'Brien,	" Wm. Martin,
" Nettie Hill,	" C. W. Kentner,
" Ida Vann,	Two children of Mrs.
" Ida Brown,	Hendricks,
" Agnes Nixon,	Two daughters of Mrs.
" Bessie Ryne,	Stackpole, Clara and
" Irene Baker,	Rosa,
" Emily Denning,	Mr. Geo W. Kent,
" Lizzie Mackay,	" Frank Hamilton,
Mrs. Doctor Hoffman,	" Edward Doyle,
" J. W. Lavis,	" Thomas Haley,
" Col. H. T. Noble,	" Robert Dyke,
" Benjamin Gilman,	Jay E. Mason,
" Carpenter,	DIED FROM WOUNDS.
" Wm. Cook,	Mrs. P. M. Alexander,
" James Goble,	" William Vann,
" Elias Hope,	" Charles March,
" E. Wallace,	" W. Wilcox,
" E. Petersberger, and Mr. Seth H. Whitmore.	

Little daughter.

Aug. 7, 1873, the Universalist church was dedicated by Rev. J. E. Forrester, D. D.

Aug. 30, 21, 22, 1873, a Brass Band Jubilee was held on the Fair grounds, under the leadership of Prof. David McCosh; closed with a grand instrumental concert by the North-western Light Guard Band of Chicago.

Nov. 2, 1873, the Catholic Church was dedicated by Bishop Foley, of Chicago.

In the fall of 1873 the Howe Truss wooden bridge was built by the American Bridge Company, at a cost of \$18,000; it was finished Nov. 18th.

Dec. 20, 1873, Prof. Swing, of Chicago, lectured in the Presbyterian church.

Jan. 21, 1874, a Conservatory of Music was started in the Seminary building, by Prof. S. W. Moses and E. A. Garney.

April 27, 1874, the I. O. O. F. held their fifty-fifth Anniversary in Dixon; thirty-seven lodges were represented in the procession. Hon. Schuyler Colfax delivered the oration.

Dec. 22, 1874, the Western Excelsior Gas Company commenced operation.

Feb. 13, 1875, the house of Henry Brenner, in the south part of the First Ward, was burned down.

Apr. 30, 1875, the Odd Fellows held their fifty-sixth Anniversary in Dixon. G. W. M. E. B. Sherman, was orator of the day.

July 6, 1875, the "Woman's Christian Temperance Union" was organized, in the basement of the Methodist Church, through the efforts of Miss Frances Willard, of Chicago. The Union consisted of thirty members. Officers elected were President, Mrs. S. H. Manny; Vice Presidents, Mrs. D. F. Carnahan, Mrs. Linchberger, Mrs. Edson, Mrs. Chase, Mrs. E. C. Sickles; Recording Secretary, Miss Lila Fargo; Corresponding Secretary, Miss E. W. Alexander; Treasurer, Miss Nellie Holt.

Nov. 1, 1875, school was opened in the College building under the name of the "Rock River University." O. G. May, President, and M. M. Tooker, Regent.





THE DISASTER AT DIXON—RUINS OF THE BRIDGE.—[PHOTOGRAPHED BY KEYES, DIXON, ILLINOIS.]

To the fall of 1873, water mains were laid from the corner of Main and Galena streets, to the corner of Second and Hennepin streets.

Dec. 4, 1873, a fire broke out in the upper story of the extensive flouring mills of Becker & Underwood. By hard work and good management, the fire department succeeded in checking the progress of the flames. The elevators at the top of the mill and much of the machinery on the floor below were destroyed. Some of the machinery on all the floors was injured by water, and much grain and flour was destroyed. The property was insured for \$12,700; insurance awarded on the property destroyed and injured was \$13,193. Bennett Thompson & Funk had a large quantity of grain damaged by water.

Dec. 17, 1873, Olive Logan lectured in Union Hall; subject "Our Girls."

April 10, 1874, the residence of Moses Jerome in Dement Town, was destroyed entirely by fire.

Thursday, July 6, 1874, Father Dixon died, aged ninety-two years. The funeral services took place the following Sabbath, in front of the Court House, attended by from six to eight thousand people. A full account of the obsequies is given in connection with the biography of Father Dixon, found in another place.

Aug. 31, 1874, the Methodist Church was redecked, after extensive repairs that had just been made.

In the fall 1874 the Dixon Hose Company took the third prize at the Firemen's State Tournament, held at Decatur. Distance run: 300 yards to hydrant; attached and laid 300 feet of hose, and attached nozzle; time 75 seconds.

Nov. 30, 1874, the Dixon Opera House, erected by H. J. Stevens, F. A. Truman, J. D. Crabtree, and W. G. Stevens, was opened by the Payson English Opera Company.

Feb. 16, 1877, Henry Ward Beecher lectured in the Opera House.

March 3, 1877, John McElroy's house in Dement Town, burned down. Loss \$500, partly insured.

March 26, 1877, Susan B. Anthony lectured at the Opera House.

May 10, 1877, the Connell granted J. D. Patton, the right to establish gas works in Dixon. The Excelsior Gas Company's charter was repealed.

Aug. 13, 1877, a grand muster of Northern Illinois firemen took place at Dixon. Eight hose companies contested for the prizes in the tournament. Distance run was 300 yards to hydrant, attach and lay one line of hose 300 feet from hydrant. The "Jackson" hose, of Morrison, succeeded in taking the first prize; time 44½ seconds. "Columbia," of Sterling, second prize; time 45¾ seconds. Hook and Ladder companies ran 300 yards, raised 30 foot ladder for a man to ascend, time called when the man grasped top rung. The "Monitor," of Dixon, took the first prize in 53¾ seconds, and "Rescue," of Freeport, the second prize in 55 seconds.

In August 1877, at the State Tournament held at Galena, the Dixon Hose Company took the second prize; Distance run: 300 yards to hydrant, attached and laid 300 feet of hose; time 67½ sec.

Oct. 1, 1877, W. N. Ferris and J. L. Hartwell opened a Business College and Academy in the third story of the Opera House block.

Oct. 4, 1877, Daniel M. Graham, D. D., was elected President of the Rock River University.

Dec. 26, 1877, Judge W. W. Heaton, died of heart disease, in Chicago, aged sixty-three years. He came to Dixon about 1840, and had been a resident here ever since. A few months before his death he was promoted from the office of Judge of the Circuit Court to the position of Chief Justice of the Appellate Court of the Chicago district.

Jan. 18, 1878, Theodore Tilton lectured in the Opera House.

Feb. 6, 1878, a fire destroyed a business house on Main street owned by W. H. Van Epps, and occupied by I. T. Van Ness, druggist, and Will Susmitch, jeweler. The loss on the building was about \$375; no insurance. There was \$4500 insurance on the stock of drugs. Mr. Susmitch lost about \$300 on fixtures, etc.; fully insured. F. Hegert's drug store, next door east, was considerably damaged by removal of goods, and water.

March 23, 24, and 25, 1878, Dr. Henry Reynolds, the originator of the Red Ribbon movement, lectured in the Opera House. On the evening of his last lecture he organized the "Dixon Reform Club" with a membership of one hundred and thirty-two.

May 8, 1878, Hon. George R. Wendling delivered a lecture in answer to Ingrossism, at the Opera House.

May 21, 1878, the "Dixon Boat Club" was organized; the following gentlemen were elected as its officers: W. H. Adams, President; E. C. Parsons, Chas. E. Chandler, H. T. Noble, J. V. Thomas, and James L. Camp, Vice Presidents; W. M. Kennedy, Secretary; Ed Hazen, Treasurer; John Coleman, Nathan Hutchinson, C. H. Noble, and J. M. Everett, Executive Committee.

June 23, 1878, Fortieth Anniversary exercises of the Dixon Baptist Church, were held at their house of worship.

Sept. 5, 1878, the Dixon Hose Company secured the Third National and the First State prizes, at the Firemen's tournament in Chicago. Distance run: 300 yards to hydrant, attached and laid 300 feet of hose, broke and made coupling 300 feet from hydrant; average time of two runs 67 seconds.

Sept. 12, 1878, the Lutheran Synod of Northern Illinois, was held in Dixon.

Sept. 18, 1878, Alexander Charles Charters, died at his home at Hazelwood farm, aged seventy-eight years. He came to Dixon about 1838 and purchased the present site that had since that time been his home.

Dec. 2, 1878, A. M. Hansen took charge of the Rock River University.

Jan. 29, 1879, the Forrest Home Lodge, No. 137, A. O. U. W. was organized with these charter members: C. C. Falford, R. Warriner, John Howe, L. D. Pitcher, J. A. Morry, Geo. Rosbrook, E. C. Smith, R. F. Brooks, C. A. Todd, J. W. Holmes, E. F. Benjamin, F. J. Flakler, F. H. Babbitt, W. J. Daley, H. Christman, M. C. Weyburn, R. S. Ferrand, H. P. Wickes, C. C. Hunt, J. L. Backus, and D. R. Bowles.

March 23, 1879, J. C. Mead's book store caught fire about three o'clock, A. M. The flames were extinguished after the upper story and roof were destroyed; goods were removed without much damage. The loss was about \$300; fully covered by insurance.

Sept. 3, 1879, the Rock River University opened under new management; J. R. Hinkleley, President.

Sept. 4, 1879, the Dixon Hose Company took the first prize at the Peoria State Tournament. Distance run: 300 yards to hydrant, carrying 350 feet of hose—attached and laid hose, broke coupling and attached nozzle 300 feet from hydrant; time 61 seconds.

Dec. 4, 1879, the switch from the North-western rail road to the water power was so far completed that trains commenced running.

Jan. 13, 1880, the home of Theodore Moeller, caught fire, and was damaged to the extent of about \$100. The property was owned by John Beebe, Jan. 31, 1880, Henderson Encampment, No. 27, of O. C. D. was organized; at the next meeting the following officers were elected: O. J. Downing, Commander; W. N. Johnson, Lieutenant; Commander; H. C. Barnes, Adjutant; J. N. Hyde, Quartermaster; B. F. Stewart, Chaplain; P. P. Shuman, Officer of the Day; James Jordan, Officer of the Guard.

April 8, 1880. The most disastrous fire that ever visited our city broke out at the water power about half-past one this morning, and in one

hour the large stone building owned by Caleb Clapp and Col. John Dement, occupied by H. D. Dement and S. C. Ellis's Flax Mill, and Thomas Baldwin's Grist Mill; W. P. Thompson's and Becker & Underwood's Flouring Mills were a mass of ruins. The water wheels and the pump house were also destroyed, thus cutting short the water supply; the foundry of Brown & Edwards on the opposite side of the street was badly burned and the plow works of C. H. Curtis caught fire several times. The Amboy fire company was telegraphed to for help; the timely arrival of the company with their steamer, probably saved the property on the south side of the street.

When the fire reached Becker & Underwood's mill there was a terrific explosion; fifteen or twenty firemen were working in and around the mill at the time; two of the number were instantly killed, and ten others badly burned and injured. The killed were: Ezra Becker and William Schum. Wounded: Cyrus List, Wm. Runk, Jr., Orvil Anderson, Peter Ramsey, William Yann, Patrick Duffy, Lee Stevens, Frank Getzenberger, Joe. Hayden, and Joe. Reuland.

The losses and insurance on buildings and machinery was as follows: Becker & Underwood, \$100,000; insurance, \$35,800 on machinery, and \$5,000 on stock. W. P. Thompson, \$35,000; insurance on machinery \$17,000, and \$3,000 on stock. Antoine Julien carried \$5,000 on one-fourth undivided interest in this mill. Col. John Dement, from \$30,000 to \$25,000 on water wheels, buildings occupied by Dement & Ellis, Foundry, and Curtis' plow works; no insurance. H. D. Dement & S. C. Ellis, from \$12,000 to \$15,000 on flax mill machinery, stock, etc.; no insurance. Caleb Clapp, \$15,000; insurance \$8,000. Thomas Baldwin, \$35,000 on grist mill machinery and stock; no insurance. Total loss, from \$100,000 to \$185,000; insurance \$68,900.

## HISTORY OF DIXON.

### ORGANIZATION OF LEE COUNTY.

As the history of a town is more or less closely connected with the county in which it is situated, it will be well to give in this connection a brief outline of the organization of Lee county, before we turn our attention especially to Dixon.

Previous to 1836 all the Northwestern part of the State, comprising what is now eight or nine counties, was attached to Jo Davies county. At the Presidential election in 1836 polls were opened in Dixon for the Rock river precinct of that county. The original county of Ogde, including the present county of Lee, was organized in December 1836. The first court in Ogde county was held at Dixon, in September, 1837. Judge Stone presided, and Thomas Ford, afterwards Governor of the State, was appointed by the court to act as district attorney. The act of the general assembly creating Lee county was approved February 27th, 1839. Messrs. D. G. Salsbury, E. H. Nichols, and L. G. Butler were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat. After due consideration these gentlemen, May 31, selected Dixon as the future seat of justice of "said county." The first election of county officers was held the first Monday in August of the same year, and resulted in the choice of Charles F. Ingals, Nathan R. Whitney, and James P. Dixon, for County Commissioners; Isaac Boardman, Clerk of Commissioners' Court; Aaron Wakely, sheriff; Joseph Crawford, County Surveyor; H. Morgan, Probate Justice; G. W. Chase, Recorder. In the adoption of the plan of organization of the county, the southern mode prevailed over the New York plan, and the affairs of the county were administered by three commissioners. The present county and township plan of organization was adopted in 1850.

### EARLY HISTORY OF DIXON.

Fifty-two years ago the first log cabin was erected on the site of Dixon. In 1823, ten years after Illinois was admitted as the 22d State into the

Union, a Canadian half-breed, named Joseph Ogde, was induced to come here and establish a ferry by Father Dixon, who at that time was Government mail contractor between Galena and Peoria. The tide of emigration was then at its height from the southern part of the State to the "lead mines" at Galena. A large proportion of these early adventurers crossed Rock river at this point, and the ferry soon proved to be a very profitable undertaking.

In 1829, Ogde's Ferry having become one of the principal points of accommodation along the route to the mines, a post office was established here and a Mr. Gay appointed post-master.

Mr. John Dixon, the founder of our town came here April 11, 1830. He purchased the ferry, and from that date the place, as a point for crossing the river, became known as "Dixon's Ferry." Mr. Dixon was appointed post master at "Ogde's Ferry" in September, and in 1831 the name of the post office was changed to "Dixon's Ferry." The banks of Rock River at the present site of Dixon were gently sloping to the waters edge; covered with grass—not abrupt as at present. Teams were loaded and landed wherever the ferry boat struck a suitable place on the shores. The ferry boat was propelled by the old fashioned "settling pole," attended with any amount of fatigue. It was one of the schools of patience in its day. A rope ferry, similar to the one now at Grand Detour, succeeded this primitive institution in 1835. A rope was stretched across the river, from the top of strong posts placed upon either bank of the river, at Galena street, and with the lee-board as motive power, more rapid and far easier transportation was secured. This ferry was the only crossing on Rock river below Rockford, and in 1834 it was the only crossing for a greater distance than that.

At this time Chicago was only known as Fort Dearborn, a frontier post with a few small inns collected about it. The settlers about what is now

the city of Rockford were obliged to come to Dixon for their mail matter, and north and west of us, for thirty or forty miles, there was no settlement. Dixon's Ferry naturally became a point of considerable importance, and when the

#### BLACK HAWK WAR

broke out in 1833, this place became the rendezvous of the United States troops and the raw levies that were raised for the defense of the frontier, as it proved to be a central position for the speedy and successful maneuvering of troops and their supplies.

A treaty had been made in 1804 with the Sac and Fox Indians, in which these powerful tribes ceded to the United States all their lands lying east of the Mississippi, and agreed to remove to lands west of that river. Black Hawk and other chiefs not being present when the treaty was made, refused to be bound by it. In 1831 Black Hawk and his band (known as the British Band of Sac Indians) crossed the river to their old homes at the mouth of Rock river, but after preparations of war were made for his extermination, he negotiated a treaty and returned to the west side of the Mississippi, receiving the presents of goods and provisions from the Government, and promising never to return without the consent of the President of the United States or the Governor of Illinois. But on the 6th of April, 1832, he again recrossed the Mississippi with his entire band and their women and children, and soon commenced his march up the river, intending to take possession of the Kishwaukee country east of the Rock river, claimed to have been given him by the Potawatomies.

Father Dixon was early advised of the approach of the Black Hawk band of Indians, and would have abandoned his home, and sought safety elsewhere, but his faith in humanity was of that kind that "Hopewell" says, "even the Indians." A leading Winnebago chief, Puck-huks, (Crane in English) had told him that the Winnebagoes held possession of the lands through which the Sacs would have to move, and that they would not dare injure the white friends of his nation. So Father Dixon was here when the savage army passed, early in May. He so arranged his family and hired help as to ascertain the forces of the hostiles. This he accomplished without exciting their suspicions. His estimate gave them six hundred men. The band encamped at a spring a few hundred yards above the ferry,—now submerged by reason of the dam.

On the 12th of May Governor Reynolds was at Dixon's Ferry, with about eighteen hundred mounted rifleman, under command of General Whitesides, awaiting the arrival of General Atkinson's forces of the regular army, coming up the river with army stores, provisions, and the general impediments of a moving army.

Immediately after the arrival of the forces at Dixon's Ferry, General Whitesides sent a party of

four men, a guide and interpreter, under command of Captain John Dement (then State Treasurer) to Shabbona's Grove, just within the borders of the present county of DeKalb, to warn the friendly Potawatomi chief, Shabbona, who lived there upon a small reservation with his family and a few followers; not to allow Black Hawk to come upon his lands to live. Losing their way the second day out, they came across four Sac Indians in a grove, some distance north east of Shabbona's grove. From these Indians they learned that Black Hawk was encamped on a stream but a few miles distant; that he had his old men, women and children with him; that they were in a starving condition, and were going over to Mud creek to hunt.

Just before Captain Dement and his party returned to Dixon's Ferry from Shabbona's Grove, Major Stillman was permitted, contrary to the advice of Father Dixon, to advance up the river and spy out the hostile camp. Major Stillman was at the Ferry when General Whitesides arrived; he had command of a small battalion of green volunteers, who, in their inexperience, were eager to fight the Indians. On the 15th of May, on the 15th or 16th of May, Stillman encamped on a small stream near Kishwaukee creek in what is now Ogle county, about thirty miles from Dixon. He was about five miles distant from Black Hawk's camp on Kishwaukee creek, but did not know it. Soon after, becoming aware of the immediate presence of an armed force, Black Hawk sent a small party of braves to a mound about a mile and a half from Stillman's camp where they displayed a flag of truce. They were discovered by some of the men, who, without reporting to their commander, and with out orders, hastily mounted and rode towards the Indians. These, not understanding this sudden movement, and apparently suspicious, commenced to retreat towards the camp of their chief. The whites dashed after them, fired and killed two of their number and captured two more, the others escaped, still pursued by the reckless volunteers. When Black Hawk and his war chief, Ne-ne-pope, saw their dash down upon their camp—their flag of truce disregarded, they raised the terrible war-whoop and prepared for the fray.

It was not the turn of the volunteers to retreat, which they did with wonderful celerity. Supposing they were pursued by a thousand savage warriors, the flying rascals rushed through the camp spreading terror and consternation among their comrades. The wildest confusion ensued, there was "mounting in hot haste;" and the efforts of the officers to rally the troops were without avail. The panic was complete; every man seemed bent upon saving his scalp, and fled, never stopping until they reached Dixon's Ferry or some other place of safety. It is said that the first man to reach Dixon was a Kentucky lawyer not known to fame in Jo Daviess county, who reported that

every man in Stillman's command had been killed except himself. Nearly every man as he came straggling back to the Ferry during the night, had a like report to make. It is a well known fact that Stillman's men were well supplied with whisky, and that many of them were drunk, which may account for their rash act in firing upon the white flag in their disregard of all rules of warfare recognized, even among the Indians. On the approach of day the order was given for a forced march to the fatal field, and about sixteen hundred of the volunteers moved out, leaving two hundred men to guard the Ferry; but the enemy had gone, the main body moving northward, and the rest scattering in small bands to avenge the death of their people upon unoffending settlers. Eleven of Stillman's men were killed. Their mutilated remains were gathered and buried, and the place is known as "Stillman's run" to this day. It is supposed that nearly all of those that were killed were not in the first melee, as all but two or three of the bodies were found on the side of the creek upon which Stillman camped; they were not so much as to be made to retreat, as the savages dashed through their camp. Being out of provisions the pursuing army were obliged to return to Dixon's Ferry, to await the arrival of the boats. This defeat was the opening of hostilities, and justice compels the impartial historian to record that the whites were the aggressors.

After the arrival of their provisions the Indians were followed to Fox river. The terms of enlistment having expired the volunteers demanded to be dismissed. They were mustered out on the 26th or 27th of May, and a new call issued for volunteers. Whitesides and two or three hundred volunteers remained in arms for the protection of the settlers until the new levies could be organized. These, with several companies of regulars, made their headquarters at Dixon's Ferry. Ranging companies were formed to keep up communication between the lead mine region and more Southern counties. Major Riley, of the United States army, converted the former residence of O.W. Kellogg, at Kellogg's Grove, thirty-seven miles north-east of Dixon, into a small, well appointed stockade, where all military fortifications were raised in different localities.

The fatal act of Stillman's men precipitated all the horrors of Indian border warfare upon the white settlements in Jo Daviess county, as it then existed, and in the adjoining portions of Michigan Territory. Nor is it certain that all the outrages were perpetrated by the "British Band." It is certain that young Potawatomies and Winnebagoes joined Black Hawk, and after the war suddenly closed at Bad Axe, it was ascertained that many of the murders had been committed by these Indians. Among the first results of "Stillman's defeat" was the descent of about seventy Indians upon an unprotected settlement at Indian Creek, where they massacred fifteen men, women

and children, and captured two young women, Sylvia and Rachel Hall. These girls, seventeen and fifteen years old respectively, were afterwards brought in by Winnebagoes to Gratiot Grove, and were ransomed for two thousand dollars in horses, wampum and trinkets. Part of the compensation agreed upon by General Dodge for their ransom, was paid to "Whirling Thunder," one of the Winnebago chiefs, at Dixon's Ferry.

The atrocities perpetrated by the Indians upon the bodies of their victims, aroused the vengeance of the settlers and miners, many of whom had previously felt that the Indians were not so much in fault, and had needlessly been provoked to bloodshed. Unexpected and mortifying as the beginning of this war had been, its reëngagement was not dreamed of, and every effort was made to ensure future protection. A fair wagon road was made from Dixon's Ferry to Rock Island, which was the base of supplies. A nother road, but more imperfect, was made from Rock Island to Fort Koshkangué (near Madison, Wisconsin) and to other temporary fortifications. Conforming to the inevitable rule of war, the country on the north side of the river, consisting of two block houses within an inclosure made by a breastwork of sod and earth four and a half feet high, and abutting on the river a few rods west of the ferry. The north-east block house was two stories high, and was so arranged as to command the north and east sides of the river. Here Captain Palmer was stationed with one company of U. S. Infantry, to guard the ferry, thus affording a safe and speedy passage to fleeing troops at all times, endeavoring himself to citizens and soldiers alike by his gentlemanly bearing and deportment.

On Saturday, May 19th, Sergeant Fred Stahl (now a respected citizen of Galea) and General privates, William John Winter, and mail contractor, John Gale, left Galea to bear dispatches to General Atkinson, who had arrived at Dixon's Ferry. On the evening of that day they were ambushed by Indians just at the edge of Buffalo Grove, now in Ogle county. One of the party was instantly killed and the others narrowly escaped to Galea.

May 25, Felix St. Vrain, agent for the Sacs and Foxes, heard of the dispatches, left General Atkinson's head quarters, at Dixon's Ferry, accompanied by six men. At Buffalo Grove they found the body of the volunteer that had been killed a few days before, and buried it. The next day (28th) they were attacked by a party of thirty Indians, near "Kellogg's old place." St. Vrain and three others were killed. The remaining three escaped and arrived at Galea on the morning of the 29th.

On the 15th of June, the new levies of three thousand volunteers, in camp at Fort Winnebago, near La Salle, were formed into three brigades, under command of General Atkinson. The first brigade was commanded by General Alexander Posey; the second by General Milton R. Alexan-



der, and the third by General James D. Henry. They moved to Dixon's Ferry a few days after.

Captain John Dement was elected Major of a spy battalion, consisting of three companies of about 140 men, belonging to General Posey's brigade. Major Dement was sent in advance of the main force to report Indian depredations that had been committed in the Bureau woods, to Colonel Taylor at Dixon's Ferry. After scouring the woods he arrived at the river the evening of the second or third day. He arrived just after two companies of regulars had been driven in from an attempt to keep open the road between Galena and Dixon. Colonel met Dement as he arrived and informed him that he had come just in time—that he had just the place for him, and directed him to swim his horses across the river in the morning, and receive his orders. In Major Dement's command were men who had held nearly every office in the State from Governor down. His men were fatigued from their long ride and expected a short rest when they arrived at the river. Dement, although ready to do his duty without flinching, was desirous of not appearing anxious to get his men prematurely into a fight, when the regulars could not hold their own, and a large force of volunteers were so soon to arrive; he therefore requested Colonel Taylor, when he should deliver him his orders, to read them to his men, that they might know that he (Dement) was not responsible for the movement. As they were ready to start, Taylor read the orders, and then addressed the men in a very abrupt manner, alluding to the unfortunate propensity of the Illinois militia for running away, and said that if they wished to sacrifice the reputation of the militia, already so poor, they had an opportunity. Major Dement immediately, in a rather unflattering manner, that the discontent Taylor alluded to was greatly exaggerated, and its cause by no means understood, and allusion to the courage of the soldiers, unjust and entirely unbecoming for from men who, with the experience of the regular army, would outstretch themselves behind walls and send to the front men who had never seen a battle. He told his men that "none need obey his orders to march that didn't wish to go, he moved off, and all, save one man, followed, and he came up after they had gone a short distance. By evening they arrived at the stockade at Kellogg's grove, and encamped. In the morning, learning that an Indian trail had been seen four or five miles from the grove, he called for twenty-five volunteers to go and investigate; these were immediately forthcoming, and among them were the only captives he had in his command. These men started just before sunrise, leaving Major Dement giving instructions to those who should remain, and, on reaching the edge of the grove they discovered seven Indians a few hundred yards from the prairie. The cry of "Indians" was raised, the men in the grove sprang to their horses in confusion, and by the time Major

Dement had brought them to order and finished his instructions, the volunteers were a mile out on the prairie in pursuit. Being splendidly mounted, Major Dement rapidly overtook a number of them, but several were too far in advance; the Indians making for another grove some two miles away, where Dement was convinced a large number of Indians lay concealed. Finding it was impossible to overtake some five or six who were in advance, on arriving at a ridge some four hundred yards from the grove to which the Indians were running, he halted the remainder of his men and formed line. As he feared, on nearing the grove those in advance were received with a warm fire, which killed two and wounded a third, and with hideous yells a large body of Indians poured from the grove, extending to the right and left, to outflank the little band, and rapidly approached. They were all mounted, stripped to the skin, and painted for battle. As the Indians reached the bodies of the dead soldiers, a large number surrounded them, chabbling and striking the lifeless remains. A volley from the rifle of Major Dement's men killed two or three at this point, but by the time two or three men had reached the ridge, the Indians were close upon them, and were on both flanks. Then came an exciting race to the grove, Indians yelling, bullets flying, and woe to the man whose horse stumbled or gave out. Here occurred an unfortunate circumstance; three men whose horses had strayed during the night, had, early in the morning, gone out in search of them, and were now caught on one of the flanks; the Indians swept over them, killing every one. These men, however, died bravely as the bodies of five Indians found near them proved. The men in the grove, hearing the firing and yelling, instead of continuing as much as they should, the instructed, mounted in hot haste and started to the rescue of their comrades. On discovering the superior force of the Indians, they fell back again. Dement and his volunteers reached the grove almost neck and neck with the Indians, sprang from their horses, and occupied the log house and barn, there situated. On the least exposed side of the house was a workbench; over this Dement threw his rifle and, and most of the horses instinctively huddled together at this house, as if conscious of danger. As the Indians swarmed into the grove and covered themselves, an ominous stillness for some minutes prevailed, which was soon broken by the sharp crack! crack! of many rifles. The floor of the log house was torn up, port holes made, and the men ordered to expose themselves as little as possible; the best marksmen, and best rifles were placed at the port holes, and a lively fire was kept up by the little garrison. Finding they made no impression, the Indians turned their attention to shooting the horses, some twenty-five of which they killed. It was unpleasant to the volunteers, who rode their own horses, to hear the crack of the rifle and the

heavy thud of the bullet, and see some favorite horse spring as the ball struck it. After a short contest of an hour or two, the Indians withdrew, leaving all dead, and losing probably several others, killed and wounded. Reinforcements were sent for the relief of Dement, from Dixon's Ferry, but too late to assist him, or follow the retreating body of Indians.

It is a remarkable fact that this was the first instance during this war, where the Indians were defeated and the position of the volunteers held until reinforcements came up. Previous to this the detachments of troops were always driven back to the main army by the overwhelming numbers of Indians. After this fight the Indians would not come to open battle of their own volition, with the whites, and the only fights that occurred were when the soldiers overtook the Indians in their retreat; which style of warfare continued until hostilities ceased with Black Hawk's surrender, in August.

General Atkinson commenced his slow and cautious march up the river about the 25th of June, and finally reached Lake Koshkongau, Wisconsin, where he was joined by General Alexander's brigade, and then continued his march to White Wolf or Whitewater, where he was joined by Posey's brigade and Major Dodge. General Alexander, General Henry and Major Dodge were sent to Fort Winnebago for supplies. Here they heard that Black Hawk was making his way towards the Wisconsin river, and, disobeying orders, Henry and Dodge started in pursuit. General Alexander and his brigade returned to General Atkinson's camp, the broad fresh trail of the Indians followed them with tireless energy. Black Hawk was overtaken at Wisconsin river, and his horses offered battle to enable the woman and children to cross the river. The battle of Wisconsin Heights, at which the Indians were badly whipped by our troops, was fought on the 22d of July, 1832. Black Hawk continued a little after noon, but the heaviest fighting was about sunset. About 10 o'clock p. m., the men huddled for rest on their arms.

The next morning not an Indian remained on the east side of the Wisconsin. General Henry pushed back for supplies and General Atkinson's forces coming up, the pursuit was renewed, and the battle of Bad Axe was fought August 2, 1832. This battle terminated the war, and Black Hawk's surrender, subsequent visit to Washington, and return to his people in Iowa, are events familiar to the reader.

At the close of the war the United States troops that had not previously been discharged, were mustered out, at Dixon's Ferry. The pack horses from all the territory between Dixon and the Wisconsin river, the mining region and the scene of Black Hawk's defeat, were gathered and corralled here, preparatory to being driven further south

for sale in more densely settled portions of the State. The wounded and sick soldiers were brought here and carefully nursed and cared for.

By the terms of General Scott's treaty at Rock Island, the Winnebago Indians were to have 40,000 rations of bacon and flour, as a remuneration for the sufferings they had endured during the summer, by the occupation of their hunting grounds. The rations for the Rock River band of that nation were ordered; Baker, who resided from Rock Island, and Father Dixon appointed to distribute it to the Indians at his discretion.

It is an interesting circumstance that at this remote outpost of civilization there met a number of men whose names are infamous, in their country's history: Scott and Taylor, the latter then a subordinate officer; Baker, whose eloquence and heroic death have endeared his memory to his countrymen; Anderson the Defender of Fort Sumpter; Abraham Lincoln, and lastly, Jefferson Davis—all here in their country's service.

During this war, and, in fact, for years after, Father Dixon's log house was a "house of call" for the traveler and the wandering tribes of red men. There might have been seen the raw boned Hoosier bound for the lead mines, yellow haired Red Sticker with his boat "shovel" "prairie schooner," with four, five or six yoke of oxen; the tramping hunter, the Potawatomi, the cunning "Winnebago," or the treacherous Sioux; all these were welcomed under the hospitable roof of the white haired pioneer, whom the Indians called Ne-din-sa—the white haired—and were made to keep the peace with one another about the friendly fireside of him whom both the red and the white man loved and respected.

Early in the spring of 1839 the Winnebago-Indians became restive, and many families again abandoned the homes which they had so recently returned. Father Dixon's old counsel could not talk so assuring of his own tribe as in 1832. He frankly admitted the trouble that was likely to follow, and faithfully said that the temper of his people was too uncertain for assured peace. The peaceful family in the old log house was broken up and Mother Dixon, with the children, went to Peoria county, and remained there until the war cloud passed over. The last of the Indians left in 1836.

Soon after the final removal of the Indians the settling of the country commenced in earnest, most of the immigration being from Kentucky and Tennessee, and taking up claims in and near to the graves. Claim stakes were stuck or other marks made with a pile, or a commencement made upon a log house, until in 1836-7 the prairie lands skirting the timber were all marked. These marks of possession could not be violated by any "claim jumper" with impunity. Mr. Dixon being the first settler on the N. E. q. of Sec. 5, 21, 9, secured title from the Government under the pre-emption laws, and laid it off into town lots in 1841 or '35; a

Mr. Bennett, from Galena, making the survey. The original plat included forty acres of land, running from the river one-half block south of Third Street, and from one-half block east of Ottawa street to one-half block west of Peoria street. Subsequently the quarter section on the north bank of the river was platted under the name of North Dixon. To this last has been added Steadman's Addition, on the east side; and to the plat on south side of the river have been added Demont's, Morrill's, and Hine's Additions, which in the aggregate cover an area sufficient for a population of many thousand more than reside here at present.

In 1833 and a part of '34, a Mr. Martin had a small store in the two story block house erected on the north bank of the river during the Black Hawk war, where the prime necessities of life: pipes, tobacco, tea, coffee, and sugar were sold to meet the wants of advancing civilization. Life's luxuries: shoes, boots and clothes were not yet so imperative.

The first house was erected a few yards north of Main street, and across what is now Peoria street, a part of it being on J. M. Cropey's lot, and the rest—for it was over ninety feet long—extending across Peoria street. When Mr. Dixon came here a portion of the hewed part of the cabin, or "block house," (see engraving) had been built by Ogce. Mr. Dixon bought the main-hewed cabin and leaving it in that condition, added the double cabin of rough logs, and subsequently finished the "block" part and connected it to the other building by the addition of "split shakes" (shown in the picture). The chimneys were built of staves, partly on the east side of the house; the small lean to on the north side (shown at the left of the picture) was the modest kitchen for the whole edifice.

In the two story part Father Dixon exchanged commodities with the Indians. The following extracts from an old day book, will show the nature of his dealings with the red man:

*Chief Drons, — Puckanza, Grey Head, Potawatomi.*

Two shirts	6	Gan worm	1
Tobacco,	1	Steel on ax	2
Two combs	2	Making spear out of file	2
Paint	2	Bashing gun	1
Corn	2	Mending hoe	1
Powder	3	Rinket	25
Salt	1	Square ax	2
Spear	6	Shirt	4
New ax for old one	1	Looking glass	1
Mending ax	1	Pin	1
One pair red leggings	5	Two knives	3

It is interesting to glance over the curious names and descriptions of some of the Indians trading with Father Dixon a half century ago; among his customers were: "Old Blue Coat" "Squirrel Checks," "Yellow Man, the old blind man's son," "Sour Head Ox," "Doctor's Husbands," "Raw Bone Black Face," "Limpy," "Consumption," "Blinky," "Buddy Walker," "A man that has a sick wife," "Old Grey Head's fat son," "Camee Thaid," "Old White Head Potawatomi's son," to this account is appended the memo-

random: "Young Potawatomi looks sneaking. Came back to get feather springs made—made feather springs."

During the Black Hawk war a Mr. Tilson established himself as an army sutler and trader, in this building. In the winter of 1838 and 1839, it was devoted to a school house where, unpretentiously it was the pioneer of the more costly school edifices of our town. Its teacher and only one of its scholars survive to live in memory of its feeble infancy. There are structures where better facilities can be had for a sound education, but none are found where more genuine good feeling prevails than existed in that same old log house.

The house faced the south, being placed at a slight angle to the river, and directly in front approached the road from Fort Clark—now Peoria—then the great thoroughfare to the lead mines at the north. It was finally destroyed in 1845, and nothing now remains to mark the spot where the venerable father of our town first made his home in the Rock river valley.

The second house on the south side of the river, was built by James Dixon just back of where Exchange block now stands. It was a log building about sixteen feet square, and in a small "lean-to," built against the east side of the house, was the village post office where Father Dixon distributed to the early settlers what little mail found its way so far from civilization. This house, together with the block house on the north side of the river, disappeared about 1855. The original mansion was converted into a tavern in 1835, and Chapman & Hamilton opened a "store" in the block part in the early part of 1836. About this time Father Dixon, who had continued to run the ferry for several years, and who had done a limited amount of trading with the Indians during all his stay at the ferry, moved to his farm which was south-west of the town. His farm residence was a few yards south-east of where the Northwestern depot now stands, and was then considered quite out of town.

In the autumn of 1839 there were, besides the original mansion and James Dixon's home before described, a small frame house, nearly opposite James Dixon's. That was Mr. Hamilton's residence, erected in 1835. It will be remembered as the small building that a few years ago stood just east of Pinekey's block. It is said to have been the first frame building erected in the place. A little further east on the opposite side of the street from Mr. Hamilton's was a building, also erected in 1835. This house was built by James Wilson, a "bachelor farmer," and was used by him as a blacksmith shop until 1837, when the finishing touches were put on, floor laid, etc. It was then used as a Court house. The first Court of Ogle county, before mentioned, was held in it. It was afterwards used for an office by the Engineers of the old internal improvement system. Originally, it was a one story building, but, as the grade of Main street was lowered at this point, a basement



DIXON IN 1832.



was formed, which gave it the appearance of a two story structure. The destruction of this building was of recent date. Another log building, torn down only two years ago, was located on the corner of Water and Hennepin streets, and was built by Dr. Forrest, the original claimant of the Woodford farm. Col. Johnson "kept boarders" in a log building, located a block further west, on the corner now occupied by E. B. Baker's building. The above, with several uncovered frames in different parts of the place, constituted the entire town of Dixon in the fall of 1836.

The inhabitants of the town at that time were James P. Dixon, Peter McKenney, Samuel Johnson, Jude W. Hamilton, James B. Barr, and E. W. Blines, with their families. Those without families were Dr. Oliver Everett, Smith Gilbraith, and James Wilson. Daniel B. McKenney, was also here at that time. Caleb Tallmage, Geo. A. Martin, E. W. Covill, and Stephen Fuller lived on farms in the immediate neighborhood.

As soon as settlements had been established in various places, regular lines of stage coaches were established; the more important ones were the lines from here to Naperville and Chicago, one running by way of Troy Grove to Ottawa, and one running to Peoria, by way of Windsor and Princeton. These lines all concentrated here and passed on to Galena.

In the early settlement of this region every dwelling house was a place of entertainment, and the hospitable dwellers of the then hastily erected houses, most of which were of logs, were always ready to furnish the weary traveler with the best that the country could afford. But as the travel through this new country increased it became necessary that a town of the size and importance Dixon had attained, should be well provided with more extensive accommodations than the private dwellings could afford. But Dixon was equal to the demand; in the space of four or five years, three hotels sprang into existence in the place. The first hotel, built as such, was the "Western," opened during the winter of 1836-7 by Horace Thompson and Peter McKenney. It was what is now the northern part of the Revere House, on Hennepin street. Then followed the Rock River House, in 1837, by Crowell & Wilson. This house was afterwards named the "Phoenix," and was finally destroyed by fire in 1846. About 1840 followed the "Dixon House" by Henry McKenney, on Main street, since removed, and virtually rebuilt and refitted on Galena street, and was the large frame building now opposite the Opera House.

In 1837 the number of families had increased to thirteen, and during this year the first school house was erected, and a school opened the following year under charge of Mr. Howland Bicknell. This building was a small, one story frame structure, paid for by private subscription, and for three years was the only public building in the village.

and at once served the purpose of Court House, Meeting House, Town Hall, School House, etc. At the close of 1838 the number of families had increased to forty. In 1839 Dixon was chosen as the seat of justice for Lee county, and the following year the Court House was built at a cost of \$7,000, and was paid for in donations from the citizens, Father Dixon donating eighty acres of land, which has since become a part of the town plat. The U. S. Land Office was moved here from Galena, in the autumn of this year.

In June 1841 Dixon was spoken of as "a considerable village with many neat dwellings," and in 1842 we find the village giving its forty-four votes "for incorporation." During this year the first church edifice was erected in Dixon, namely, the old Methodist church building on Second street, since more familiarly known as the "old High School building."

In 1843 there was a town here, as we see, but was a "town" in name; there were, yet, but few attractions in the place that would of themselves create a town. The great drawback was the wild and unsettled condition of the country. There was as yet no milling advantages; the settlers in and around the embryo city were compelled to go long distances for flour, and Chicago was the nearest market, and, many times, a week would be consumed in transporting one wagon load of grain, and oftentimes the expense of this transportation would consume the entire amount received for the products sold. But it was the "County Seat," and with a firm belief in the future proud destiny of the place, people located here.

In 1843 the village reached a population of 400, and it had four religious denominations: Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal and Congregational; a select and one district school,—with an attendance of seventy-five pupils in the two schools, and twenty-seven establishments doing business in the retail lines represented in a country town.

Up to 1850 Dixon did not improve much, indeed, no towns throughout the northern part of the State progressed at this time. The State suffered from indebtedness and loss of credit occasioned by the vast appropriations made for the visionary and disastrous internal improvements. The fear of taxation stopped immigration almost entirely for a season, and commerce and agricultural interests languished for want of means of communication with the outside world.

The winter of 1846-7 the first bridge was erected across Rock river at this point, but it was of very short duration, for it is recorded that the south half of the work raised with such fond anticipations of bringing great prosperity to the rising young town in the immediate future, was swept away by the treacherous tide the 29th of March 1847. In 1850 a mill dam was placed across the river, and the village soon began to assume importance as a manufacturing town. A saw mill

was placed on the north side of the river, the same year, and in 1831 the erection of a large flour mill was commenced on the south side; these were soon followed by other mills, foundry and machine shops, etc.

In May, 1831, the population of Dixon was estimated at seven or eight hundred. There was then in the thriving village a printing office, eight or ten stores, "and several professional men and mechanics in all departments of trade." Two church buildings, three hotels, a lively stable and a market. From this time until the war Dixon improved with great rapidity. The subject of the prospective Central Railroad was already being agitated by the newspaper, and the town and its prospects became more widely known. Those who were here at that day, will remember the great thrill of excitement that electrified the village when they beheld the Engineers approaching, and the many wonderful predictions that were made of the future progress of Dixon. With great suspense did the people watch the progress of this road, fearful at every delay that it might fall through and ruin the fair prospects of the promising town, but, by a vigorous prosecution of the route in the extreme, they waited long, until at last they were gladdened by the news that track laying had been commenced, with the assurance that it would be pushed forward with all possible diligence. Finally, in January, 1833, their eyes beheld, in reality, the locomotive and heard its welcome scream, upon two tracks instead of one, the "Dixon Air Line" had reached Dixon about the same time. With the approach of the rail roads, came many strangers from near and far. It stimulated trade, and had a reviving influence everywhere. The prosperity of the town was no longer a matter of conjecture but an established fact. In August of this year there were one hundred and twenty eight stores, business companies, stores, offices, shops, etc., among them two printing offices, four hotels, two planing mills, a saw mill, foundry and machine shop, and a flouring mill in Dixon. Before the close of 1833 the population of the town had increased to 3,000. Another feature worthy of note is the relative character of the buildings erected here, and the relative progress reached here. The ideas of the people became enlarged, and with that growth came pride—pride in the appearance of their dwellings and places of business. The spirit of rivalry between towns and villages, too, was high, and as the result of this rivalry, stimulated into life by the railways, we find with pardonable pride to our public buildings, business blocks and elegant residences.

All this growth and improvement was not the work of ill-advised speculation, nor the result of unwarranted ambition by our citizens, but the needs of the place called for it, for the accommodation of the new comers that were constantly arriving, and for the increased trade that naturally found its way to our city.

From 1833 to 1839 Dixon luxuriated in the name of "town." The ambition of our citizens was aroused to such a pitch that the name of town was too insignificant, and consequently a change was obtained from the State Legislature, and the city was organized by the election of city officers, March 7th, 1839. And now a new order of things was inaugurated. More attention was paid to laying and repairing sidewalks, and keeping the streets in good condition, and initial steps were taken toward a more complete system of public schools than the place had before enjoyed.

The incorporation of Dixon was certainly a step in the right direction. It was a logical conclusion destined to follow a wise forethought and careful management. Perhaps none could take more pride in the consummation of this wise step than Father Dixon, who had lived to see advancement stamped upon each succeeding year, until the seal of "success" was placed upon the enterprise commenced thirty-nine years before.

The shrieking locomotive thunders over the bluff where once the Buffalo passed to look down upon the humble home of the pioneer; the red deer made his lair under the shade of giant trees, here now are busy streets. The Indian trade but brave soldiery once pitched their tents in the Indian war, is now the silent city of the dead, in whose narrow habitations rest the voiceless forms of those whose once busy hands and willing hearts, reared for us the homes and secured for us the privileges which we now enjoy. The Buffalo, the red man, the pioneer, the children of the white race, and the children of the Indian race, have passed away as a dream; the busy life thrives on but they are among the things of the past.

Having in a brief and cursory manner sketched the career of Dixon, from its infancy to the time it became a flourishing city, it becomes now our pleasant duty to mention the most prominent of its advantages and attractions, as existing at present, and in doing this we must touch but briefly upon each subject, as they are too numerous to admit of extended description. Among the advantages, then, possessed by this city as a place of residence, we may mention the steady appreciation of property, accessibility to the leading markets; good schools, churches, society, manufacturing interests, variety of scenery, etc.

#### APPRECIATION OF PROPERTY.

We can not boast of fortunes made here in a day by the rapid increase in the valuation of property, but investments are always desirable and safe. The real estate business of the place is on the "upstroke." Residence and business lots command ready sales and good prices, and it is seldom that any one need hold property at a loss. It is impossible to give the average price of residence and business lots on account of the great variation in prices according to location and size, but they sell at reasonable prices, not losing as is a town that has "seen its best days," nor yet

exorbitant as in the case of some of the western towns of rapid, but unhealthy growth. Good inducements are held out by our real estate dealers to strangers to settle and become permanent citizens.

#### LOCATION OF DIXON.

Dixon is situated on the Illinois Central rail road, at its crossing with the Chicago & North-Western. It is ninety-eight miles from Chicago, by rail. It is on two great trunk lines, one running north and south through the State, and the other running east and west, being the principal connecting link between the Union Pacific, and the many lines that diverge from Chicago. By either of the above roads we have rapid communications with the outside world, north, south, east and west. Previous to last fall most of our manUFACTURING INTERESTS suffered the disadvantage of being located a mile from the depot, but now, through a concerted movement of the city and both rail road companies, the cars are brought to the doors of our factories and mills. The following figures show the amount of traffic for the past year done by the railroads at this point:

	Cars Forw'd.	Cars Rec'd.
C. & N. W. R. R.....	8,498	1,328
Ill. C. R. R.....	955	1,012

Not included in the above there were 1,300 cars of coal received upon the Central from LaSalle, and transferred to the Northwestern road.

	The ticket sales were as follows:
C. & N. W. R. R.....	\$32,174.10
Ill. C. R. R.....	12,337.75

The town has a great advantage over many inland cities in the matter of scenery and picturesque beauty of location, and, as it is so high and very rolling ground, the drainage is excellent. To the north and south are broad stretches of fine prairie, smooth and unbroken, and studded all over with the homes of thrifty farmers; to the east and west, and, in fact, all around us, in the immediate vicinity, are beautiful hills, valleys and plains. In the summer, when all nature is clothed in her most beautiful garments of variegated charms, it is hard to find a more pleasant place. In deed this locality is obtaining quite a notoriety as a summer resort, and from the decks of the pleasure steamers that sail back and forth upon waters of Rock river at this point, can be seen the white tents of numerous camping parties, peeping out from among the green foliage lining the banks and islands.

#### SOME OF THE NATURAL ADVANTAGES.

Of our city should be given in this connection. The beautiful Rock river flows through the place, furnishing excellent power for manufacturing purposes. The valley at this point widens out into a vast amphitheater, just wide enough to take into its protection this our young city. Of timber we have a very good supply of different kinds. We have high, rolling prairies and we have level prairies, we have timber lands and we have water courses—we doubt if a greater diversity of country

could be desired. The temperature of the climate might be classed among the natural advantages. The high elevation of the place, good drainage and free circulation of the atmosphere have conducted to give Dixon a healthy temperature that must be appreciated by all who visit the town.

#### EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

The scholastic advantages presented by a town are always carefully "weighed in the balance," by heads of families who contemplate a change of residence. It is but natural, too, that this matter should be closely inquired into, as so much depends upon the facilities afforded the children in a community where public schools are the *alma maters* of so large a proportion. The time has long since gone by when this matter could be ignored, and we are glad to be able to chronicle the fact that Illinois has taken the second position among the States in the educational cause.

No better evidence of the intelligence and enterprise which characterize the people of Dixon can be given than the graceful and commodious public school buildings of our city, which are alike enduring monuments to their projectors and builders as well as ornaments to the city.

The city is divided into two school districts, and in the winter of 1898-9, the people of District No. 5, (north side) at a cost of \$23,000, erected a fine school building of magnificent appearance, standing on an elevation near the grove that skirts the northern part of our town, and overlooking every portion of the city, the river, its islands, and rough romantic scenery, and the rolling prairie beyond. The building is constructed of brick to the third story, which is a Mansard roof, crowned with a metal balustrade. The ground plan is 54 by 65 feet. To include the basement, is four stories high. The first and second stories, each thirteen feet high, are divided into two school rooms, 25 by 35 feet, with a recitation room for each, 10 by 15 feet. The Mansard story is one large study-room, 59 by 45 feet, sixteen feet high, having a rostrum in the north end, 10 by 15 feet, with an ante-room opening upon it from either side. The halls are commodious and give easy access to each room.

Mr. C. O. Scudder is principal of the schools on the North Side, and they are prospering under his careful management. There are now enrolled in the different departments about 180 pupils.

The High School department is taught by the principal, assisted by Miss Welty, the Grammar School is taught by Miss A. Raymond, Intermediate by Miss M. Yates, and the Primary department by Mrs. A. C. Holbrook.

The building on the South Side, in District No. 1, was erected in the summer of 1899, at a cost of \$33,000. It is a handsome brick structure, and even more imposing appearance than its predecessor on the North Side. This building, situated as it is upon a high eminence in the southern part of the city, near the depots, is the most prominent object that meets the gaze of strangers visiting our city.

The building, which is 91 by 73 feet, four stories high including the basement, is admirably arranged, each room being large and well adapted to the purpose for which it is used, while the furniture consists of modern and most approved patterns. The seats provided will accommodate 216 pupils, with comfort and convenience. The building contains eight school rooms, with all the necessary recreation rooms, closets, etc., thus arranged: one primary and two intermediate rooms on the first floor, two intermediate and one grammar room on the second floor, and one primary and grammar and high school rooms on the third floor.

There are 439 pupils enrolled in the South Side Public Schools.

The schools in this district are under the efficient management of E. C. Smith who has served in the capacity of Superintendent of the South Side schools for the past eighteen years.

The High School is taught by the Superintendent assisted by Miss Emma Goodrich, with an attendance of 20 pupils.

The First Grammar School is taught by Miss Adella Pinckney, with an attendance of 27 pupils; and the Second by Miss Nellie Soule, with an attendance of 34.

The First Intermediate is taught by Miss Hattie Stirling, with an attendance of 36 pupils; the second taught by Miss Ida DeLand numbers 45 pupils; the third taught by Miss Emma Barnham numbers 49 pupils; and the fourth taught by Miss Fannie Murphy numbers 57 pupils.

The Primary department is taught by Miss Amelia McManey, numbers 51 pupils.

North of the Court House, in the 3d Ward, is another Primary school where Miss A. G. Curtice instructs 45 pupils. West of the Central depot, in the 3d Ward, is another small school building in which Mrs L. L. Woodward instructs 47 pupils.

Since the grade system of instruction was adopted in the South Side schools, beginning with 1334, there has been seventy-two graduates from the High School; forty-one females and thirty-one males. There has been two or three classes graduated from the High School on the North Side since the adoption of the grade system in that district in 1869; the number of graduates we, however, were unable to learn.

The Catholic society has a denominational school with an average attendance of 120 scholars, under the instruction of Fr. Donalduin, S. J. and one Novice. The school was started about 1872 in the old church building, under the labors of Father McDermott, and has been kept up in a prosperous condition ever since.

In addition to the public schools our city has the Rock River University. The building is a large brick and stone edifice, five stories high, located on a high eminence in the east part of the town, and commands a view of the country for many miles in extent all around our city, as well as the course of Rock river in its meanderings

toward the Father of waters, until it passes from the range of sight. The building is constructed on an extensive plan and is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was erected.

The institution has practically settled down to a Preparatory and Military Academy, yet, competent instruction in the Normal, Business, Musical and Art departments, is provided for those wishing such special work.

The present Board of Management and instruction consists of J. W. H. Hickey, President; Maj. H. O. Chase, Military Instructor; W. H. Campbell, Business Manager; Henry M. Douglass, Mrs. J. W. Hickey, and Miss Lucy Whitton.

We can highly recommend Dixon to the people throughout the State who desire to send their young people away to school, as the tuition is very high, considering the advantages offered. In the matter of board we think that article can be obtained here as cheap as anywhere else.

It seems proper that, in connection with the educational facilities, and the society, we should mention in a brief manner,

#### OUR CHURCHES.

They are all of them handsome, substantial buildings, constructed and finished according to modern tastes, and present a pleasing and inviting appearance. All the present church structures in use, except one, were built within the past fourteen years. These buildings are all conveniently large for the wants of this place, and have a total seating capacity of over three thousand, and upon special occasions can be made to accommodate a much greater number. The church property of our city represents a total value of over \$140,000. Below we give the date of construction, size, cost, etc., of the different buildings:

The Methodist people have a fine brick structure on Peoria Street, 80 by 45 feet, two stories high, the basement story is used by the Sabbath School. The building was commenced in 1859 and inclosed the next year, but was not entirely finished until 1857. It cost \$15,000. In 1870 the interior was torn out and replaced by new work at an expense of about \$5,000. The church has a membership of 270. Rev. W. A. Patton is pastor. The Presbyterian church on Third street was erected in 1868 at a cost of about \$10,000. The building is constructed of dressed stone, and is 41 by 72 feet; the interior has been refurnished, painted, etc., which gives it as bright and new appearance as it ever had. The building is surmounted by a tower 130 feet high which encloses a magnificent bell weighing over 3,000 pounds. There is connected with this church about two hundred members. Rev. E. C. Stickles has been pastor for the past eighteen years.

The Luth. society have a neat brick structure, 42 by 80 feet, on Second street, erected in 1869, at a cost of \$15,500. The society has a handsome parsonage on the lot adjoining the church which was erected during the summer of 1870.

The church building is two stories high; the basement story is devoted to the use of the Sabbath School. This church has a membership of about one hundred and forty-five. Rev. L. L. Lipe is pastor.

The Baptist people have a commodious brick edifice, 50 by 45 feet, on Second street. It was dedicated in July 1873, and cost about \$15,000. The auditorium of this church will comfortably seat 500 people. The Sabbath School room occupies most of the entire lower story. There is connected with this church a membership of one hundred and seventy-three. O. P. Bestor is pastor.

The Episcopal society have an imposing stone building on the corner of Peoria and Third streets, erected in 1872. The dimensions of this building are 104 by 54 feet. The chancel is 22 by 30 feet, organ room 15 feet square, and vestry same size. The spire surmounting this structure is 138 feet high. The entire cost of this building was about \$20,000. Rev. W. W. Steele is rector.

The Universalist society have a commodious stone edifice on the corner of Hennepin and Second streets. This house was erected in 1873; it is 42 by 80 feet, and will comfortably seat 430 persons. The church, by economical management was built for about \$8,000, which is a remarkable low figure, considering the size and substantial character of the building. Rev. H. V. Chase is pastor of this society.

The Catholic congregation have the largest church structure in the city. It is a handsome brick building, located near the South Side public school building, and was erected in 1873; it has a seating capacity of over 600. This church, including altar fixtures, etc., cost about \$30,000. The bell on this church weighs nearly 2,500 pounds, and cost \$500. There are two hundred families connected with the congregation of this church.

St. Peter's Lutheran is pastored by Rev. J. H. S. S. Sabbath schools are connected with all our churches and have a total membership of about 800; the total number of volumes in the libraries belonging to these different Schools is about 2,025.

#### THE HOTELS

of a place take considerable prominence in the mind of the traveling public in forming an opinion of a town, and in this way good hotels greatly assist in creating a favorable knowledge of a city over a wide extent of country. In this connection we esteem our hotels worthy of mention as among the attractions of our city. Our hotel accommodations are equal to any common emergency and are all well kept houses; first in the list we shall mention the Nachter house, located on Galena street, opposite the public square. It occupies a commanding eminence, and overlooks the whole town, as well as the course of Rock river for many miles above and below the city. It is built of undressed lime-stone, and, including the basement, is a five stories high. The main building is 48 by 40 feet, with a wing in the rear 80 by 32

feet. The fifth story was added to the building in 1867, and is finished with a Mansard roof. The original and entire cost of the building was over \$30,000; to erect this house now, with the present cost of materials, would probably be near \$40,000. The management of the house is now in the hands of Mr. Geo. Benjamin, who is a thorough business man.

The Washington House, located on the corner of Main and Ottawa streets, is a three story brick structure, 34 by 60 feet, with a large frame addition in the rear. This house is located in the business part of the city and close to the water power. Mr. Henry Hemery, the present proprietor, erected the house in 1861, and, with the exception of four years between 1856 and '60, has run the hotel since that time, and this long experience in the same locality is a sure recommendation that he knows "how to keep hotel."

The Key Stone House is the most Central Hotel in the city, located as it is on the corner of Main and Galena streets. This hotel occupies two buildings; the brick part adjoining the stone building on the corner, was erected in 1866 by Mr. Philip Brautigan, but being too small for the purposes of a hotel, a door way was cut through the walls, and by thus connecting the two buildings the accommodations of the house were enlarged. This hotel is under the excellent management of Mrs. E. Brantigan.

The Waverly House, at the North-western depot, has a well established reputation as a first-class house, and is a favorite with the patrons of the Chicago & Northwestern railway. This hotel is under the successful management of Mr. Thomas Young.

In addition to the above named hotels we have the Revere House, a large hotel-boarding house situated on Hennepin street near Main, run by Mr. Henry Bollman. The new Transient House, between the Central and North-western depots, kept by James Duffy.

#### STREETS AND SIDEWALKS

In regard to the excellent condition of her streets and sidewalks, Dixon may well feel proud. For in this respect our town is equalled by but few cities of its size in the State. This subject is a matter of general remark among visitors and strangers, and they are often surprised, when, after wading through mud and water in other cities, they visit our town on the same day, and find our streets comparatively dry and free from mud. We have in good repair over twenty miles of sidewalks and crossings. During 1879 our city expended \$2,954.82 in sidewalk improvements, such as macadamizing and grading streets, building and repairing sidewalks, building bridges and culverts, putting in street lamps, etc. Already this year admirable improvements have been commenced of which the excellent new sidewalks on Main street bear evidence.



## THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Is entirely volunteer, and consists of a Hose company of 35 men, and a Hook and Ladder company of 35 men. These companies were both organized in January 1870; up to that date our city was without any organized force for fire protection. In 1859 the Water Power Company had put in a rotary pump of a rated capacity of 1300 gallons per minute—about double the capacity of a first class steam fire engine. This pump, together with 600 feet of hose, was originally intended for the use of the manufacturing establishments at the water power, but when the fire companies were organized the city assumed charge of the pump and bought 100 feet of additional hose, and one hose reel, hook and ladder truck, and other necessary fire apparatus. The fire hall was built in 1871; the upper story is divided into two meeting rooms, one for each company, and the lower story is used for apparatus. In the winter of 1861-2, water mains were laid from the pump to the corner of Main and Galena streets, and afterwards to the corner of Hennepin and Second streets. In 1876 the city put in a piston pump with a capacity of 1600 gallons per minute, but owing to the small mains cannot be worked to its full capacity. The city has expended for apparatus and property for the fire department since its organization, over \$18,500. The department had at the beginning of this year three hose carts, twenty-one hundred feet of hose, and two hook and ladder trucks, but nearly a thousand feet of hose was destroyed at the recent disastrous fire. Too much can not be said in praise of our firemen for the prompt manner in which they have responded to the alarm of fire, and the herculean efforts made to save the property of their fellow citizens. Another item that should not be overlooked in this connection, is the fleetness and efficiency that our firemen have acquired by earnest practice; wherein the Dixon Hose Company has become famous, they having at the last two State championships secured the Champion's belt over many competitors.

Recent experience has made it apparent to all that our city needs better and more serviceable means for fire protection. Present indications are that this desired object will soon be accomplished, as practical movements are now being made by the City Council to that end.

With admirable perseverance the Dixon Hose Company have secured a fine library of nearly one thousand volumes, many of which were kindly donated by friends of the company. Citizens, not members of the company, become entitled to the privileges of the library by donating one dollar, or a hook worth \$1.50, subject to the approval of the company, and the payment of one cent yearly dues. A few weeks ago the Monitor Hook and Ladder Company commenced a library in their meeting room, which already numbers over one hundred volumes.

Mr. R. S. Farrand is the present Fire Marshal, J. W. Latta, Assistant. Officers of the Hose company are C. C. Atkins, Foreman; F. J. Flankler, First Assistant; Wm. Rock, Second Assistant; Nathan McKenney, Secretary; Chas. Weiss, Treasurer. Officers of the Hook and Ladder company: Chas. Ramsey, Foreman; Gordon Cropsy, First Assistant; T. R. Eisenberg, Second Assistant; J. A. Stumpf, Secretary; G. W. Taylor, Treasurer.

## OUR BRIDGES.

From the first wagon bridge placed across the river at this point until the erection of the present structure at the foot of Galena street, the experience of Dixon in keeping up uninterrupted communication between the north and south sides of the river was unfortunate. The first bridge was erected by the "Rock River Dam and Bridge Company" in the fall and winter of 1846-7, at the foot of Ottawa street. Travel across the bridge had scarcely commenced, when the spring freshet of 1847 swept away the north half. The bridge was rebuilt that summer, and remained entire until the spring of 1849 when the south half was taken out. The ferry was now brought into use as the bridge was not rebuilt until the summer of 1851. The structure erected in 1851 lasted until the spring of 1857, when the descent of the ice that year, again demolished our river bridge. A new bridge was placed across the river at the foot of Galena street, but like its predecessors at the foot of Ottawa street, was of short duration for in June of 1858 it was taken out by a very high freshet. This bridge was rebuilt, but in February 1859, only four months after it was finished, a large portion was taken out by the ice. In the meantime the toll bridge had obtained a rival in the shape of a free bridge, erected by private enterprise. This bridge was built in Morris Town but was just completed when, in February, 1857, it was destroyed by that year. It was soon rebuilt but the June freshet of the next year carried out a portion of the structure. It was again immediately repaired, and the bridge probably lasted until about 1860. We will again turn our attention to the history of the bridges at the foot of Galena street. In August a free bridge was commenced, to take the place of the toll bridge taken out in the spring of that year. The completion of this bridge was considerably delayed by not having sufficient funds at command to carry the work forward, "Free Bridge Parties" were given, and the proceeds added to the liberally contributions of the merchants. Finally the necessary sum (\$18,000) was raised, and the bridge was thrown open to the public almost at once, rejecting, January 1st 1861. This bridge remained until March, 1868, when the ice took out the entire structure. Thro' all these years, until the city erected the Truesdell bridge in 1868, nine bridges—all of wood resting upon wooden trestles or piers—had been, either in part or wholly, swept away by the treacherous

waters of Rock river. This being the case, the people finally came to the conclusion that they would erect a bridge which no flood could wash away. With much labor and expense piers in d abutments of solid masonry were placed upon substantial foundations made by driving piles below the gravel and changing bed of the river. Upon these piers and abutments was placed a handsome superstructure wholly of iron with the exception of the floors. The entire cost of the work to the city was \$75,000. The opening of the bridge to the public on the 21st of January, 1869, was made the occasion for a celebration by our citizens, and after a severe test of its strength, the structure was accepted by the city, and all rejoiced that we had at last secured a bridge of such great strength, and no one present upon this occasion thought they would live to see its destruction; but, alas! how frail are human bones. Scarcely four years had passed when it fell, resulting in such a fearful sacrifice of life and property, and causing so much suffering. The debris was removed and the present durable wooden bridge of the Howe-Truest patent was erected the same year (1873) at an expense of \$18,000. This bridge rests upon the old foundation, and is 665 feet in length with a wagon road 18 feet in width and a foot path on either side five feet wide.

A few hooks below this the river is spanned by a magnificent iron railroad bridge belonging to the Illinois Central Railway Company, whose track passes through the west part of our town, ranging above high arches spanning the streets it crosses. This bridge, which is said to be one of the finest and strongest iron bridges in the State, was erected in 1864, upon the old foundation that had supported a wooden bridge built in 1854.

## THE GRAIN TRADE.

The filling up of the west places and the unexampled development of the rich agricultural districts of Lee county have served to increase the grain trade until her annual shipments have exceeded our most sanguine expectations. Our grain finds a market in Chicago over the Chicago & North Western railway and by means of a contract with the C. B. & Q. railroad we can also ship our grain to Chicago over the Illinois Central road. Thus it will be seen that we have competing transportation lines that have a healthy influence on our grain trade and give us an outlet to the best grain market of the country. Consequently our dealers are enabled to offer to our farmers extra inducements to sell their grain in this market. In order, however, to better illustrate the importance of Dixon as a grain shipping point, we will give a few figures, showing the shipments from this place by Capt. John Dysart, from April 1st, 1870, to April 1st, 1871, were as follows: Corn, 219,740 bushels; Oats, 72,340; Wheat, 9,564; Rye, 8,654; Barley, 1,100; Total, 311,788 bushels. This of course does not include the shipments of Mr. Barlow, and others, which

in the aggregate would show a large grain business at this point.

The stock interests here are quite extensive, and much of the corn raised in this vicinity is fed out and driven to market, instead of being hauled there in wagons. When we calculate the amount of corn consumed in this manner, it will nearly double the amount raised here, but our figures show as being shipped.

## CIVIC SOCIETIES.

Of these Dixon has twelve organizations, a fact indicative of the social and benevolent nature of her people. With the exception of one these are all secret societies, the aggregate membership of which is over 500. Most of them are beneficial in their character, and have a life insurance connected with its organization. This provision is made for the afflicted during life and their survivors after death.

Below we give the names and dates of organization of the different lodges and societies, together with the Principal officers:

Masonic—Knights of the K. G. No. 7. Organized under dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky on November 6, 1840; obtained charter from the Grand Lodge of Illinois October 6, 1841. Officers: J. V. Thomas, W. M.; J. B. Pomroy, S. W.; W. M. Kennedy, J. W.; Ed. Hazen, Sec.; Theodore Mueller, Treas.

Nachusa Chapter, No. 56. Organized under dispensation July 23, 1859; received charter Sept. 29, 1860. Officers: J. B. Pomroy, H. P.; J. W. Latta, King; S. S. Dodge, Scribe; D. B. McKenney, Treas.; E. W. Smith, Sec.

Dixon Council, No. 7. Organized under dispensation, Dec. 16, 1863. Officers: C. S. Brown, Treasurer; H. G. M. J. B. Pomroy, Sec. Dixon Commandery, No. 3, K. T. Organized under dispensation June 16, 1838; obtained charter October 23, 1866. Officers: Orris B. Dodge, E. C.; James B. Charters, G.; John D. Crabtree, G. G.; James A. Hawley, Treas.; C. W. Latimer, Rec.

ODD FELLOWS—Dixon Lodge, No. 39. Organized under dispensation May 28, 1848. Officers: Orville Anderson, N. S.; Edmund Camp, V. G.; M. C. Weyburn, Sec.; H. P. Wicker, E. S.; Francis Forsyth, Treas.

Nachusa Encampment, No. 115. Organized under dispensation March 9, 1871; obtained charter October 10, 1871. Officers: M. C. Weyburn, C. P.; C. W. DeW. H. P.; F. Hegert, J. W.; F. P. Beck, Scribe; C. F. Emerson, Treas.; R. Rice, J. W.

Rucker Lodge, No. 493, (German.) Organized August 7, 1872. Officers: A. Reseck, N. G.; I. Faulkner, V. G.; A. Levi, R. S.; C. Gonnerman, Treas.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES—Father Mathews Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society. Organized Feb. 4, 1870. Officers: James Rice, Pres.; John

Hennessey, V. Prest.; Dennis Deany Rec. Sec. Patrick McDonald, Treas.; C. J. Turney, Marshal. Dixon Division, No. 11, S. of T. Organized November 11, 1855. Officers: B. F. Stewart, W. P. J. W. Clute, Treas.; L. H. R. S.

Forrest Home Lodge, No. 137, A. O. U. W. Organized January 24th, 1879. Officers: H. P. Wickes, M. W.; W. J. Daley, P. M. W.; H. Christman, Foreman; Eugene Pinckney, Overseer; G. A. Mend, Rec.; L. D. Pletcher, Financier.

Henderson Encampment, No. 37, O. C. D. O. J. Dowling, Com.; W. J. Johnston, Ident. Com.; Henry Barbs, Adj't.; J. N. Hyde, G. M.

Dixon Boat Club, was organized May 23, 1878. Officers: E. C. Parsons, Pres. F. K. Orvis, V. Pres.; W. M. Kennedy, Sec.; Geo. D. Laing, Treas.; C. E. Chandler, Capt.

#### THE DIXON WATER POWER.

In the year 1841 the agitation of the subject of building a dam across Rock river at this point was commenced, and about the year 1845 resulted in a survey being made by one Woodworth, who reported a fall in the river from Grand Detour of nine and a half feet, and that the erection of a dam at this place was not a difficult undertaking. Subsequently, probably in 1846, a charter was obtained to organize the Dixon Dam and Bridge Company, and in the fall and winter of 1846-7 the bridge was built. We have seen how this first bridge fared. Subsequently a new charter was obtained and a company organized in 1848, under the name of the "Rock River Hydraulic Company," for the purpose of constructing a dam, but for some reason the work was not immediately taken forward. In 1849 the Illinois Legislature was made to the County Commissioner's Court for a writ of *ad quod damnum* in accordance with the law in regard to proposed mill dams, a jury of twelve disinterested men was summoned who met in September, and declared in favor of the building of the proposed dam. The company entered into negotiations with Messrs. Hanchett & Dalton, of Beloit, Wis., which resulted in a contract on the part of these gentlemen to build the dam for a bonus of \$1,500. They immediately commenced work; they were allowed to help themselves with out charge, to such material as the woods and quarries afforded, and were to own the dam when completed. At this time the location was made for a five foot dam in the preliminary proceedings, it at first was built only two feet and a half high, but was found to be inadequate to furnish the power needed and was soon raised higher. It was built of brush or young trees, stone and gravel, and was soon finished. Although Hanchett & Dalton had acquired the ownership of the works they were unable to retain it by reason of the indebtedness that they had incurred in its construction. Mr. J. B. Brooks had furnished their employees with goods from his store, and Col. Dement had provided funds, until the demands of these two gentlemen were more than

the firm could liquidate. As a matter of security therefore, Messrs. Dement and Brooks eventually acquired the entire ownership of the dam, and Hanchett & Dalton retired. A saw mill was built at the north end of the dam at the same time, by Mr. Christopher Brookner. The building that, previous to the great fire of April 8, 1883, was known as the Becker & Underwood mill was commenced by Brooks & Dement as soon as they had become owners of the dam. Col. Dement sold his interest in the mill, and acquired Brooks's interest in the dam, and the mill was afterwards run by Brooks & Daley. Dement then built the foundry and the present race, and laid the foundation for what, prior to the fire mentioned above, was known as the Flax Mills and the Flooring Mills of Thompson & Co., both of which were afterwards built by Chas. Godfrey, Esq. Col. Dement, since that time, also built the Plow Works and the Flax Mills on the south side of the race. Mr. Godfrey not only built the Flouring mill mentioned, but purchased the Becker & Underwood mill of Brooks & Daley, and a large interest in the water power.

The dam withstood the tide for two or three years without requiring any considerable repair. Breaches were not unfrequent, but in every instance they were readily mended and the proprietors, after years of experience and observation, have gained a knowledge of the current and bed which has at last enabled them to construct a first class dam, seven feet in height, against which water and ice seem to be powerless.

From Grand Detour to this place, a distance of nine miles, there is a fall of nine and a half feet. The volume of 7,235 cubic feet of water per minute, at the lowest stages of the river. This has been ascertained to a certainty by J. M. Patrick, Esq., who measured it and made estimates in 1863, when the river was very low. This would furnish a power equal to that of 3,000 horse. The fall then was five feet, since then it has been raised to seven feet and two inches, which will nearly double the power. At least 5,000 horse power is attained. Calculating that it will require twenty horse power for one run of stone, we find that our water power is capable of propelling 250 run of very large stone. This calculation is made from the very lowest stage of water—when the river is up to a medium stage the power almost doubles the above figures. It is estimated that the water used by our factories when they were all in operation was not perceptible in the flow of water over the dam. The capacity of the power already developed would be sufficient to run a line of factories on each side of the river that would reach from the dam to the railroad bridge. This places within the grasp of Dixon the banner of manufacturing towns in Illinois. Will the tale tell? By placing that portion of this water power not needed by the present owners, in the

market at reasonable figures, new capital would be invested in it and by the full employment of this immense power by capitalists, who have, and will feel an increasing interest in the city, equal to the amount of their capital invested in the mechanical appliances of that power, all branches of industry and mercantile enterprises would be stimulated to such an extent, that it would not be unreasonable to expect that in ten years Dixon would become a city of fifteen or twenty thousand inhabitants.

We will now turn our attention briefly to the manufacturing interests of our city. Prominent among the installations at the water power, is the

These works were established in October, 1856, by Col. John Dement, on the site now occupied by Vann & Means, carriage makers. The business was there carried on for several years and was then moved to its present location at the water power. The whole business was, at that time, done in the building afterwards used as a blacksmith shop. From a small beginning the establishment grew in capacity and reputation, and obtained its highest importance under Col. Dement's management, in 1863 and '64, when his place took the first premium at the field trial of the State Agricultural Society, over all competitors, and he was awarded gold and silver medals; from which fact, until the retirement of Col. Dement from the business, the plows were known as "The Gold Medal." At this time began the wonderful series of improvements which in a few years changed the soft rough German Steel Plow, then in general use, into the hardened, highly alloyed patent-steel implement of today. Except a few models of manufacturing improvements, there has been but little change in the Dixon Plow. The short, deep, round-topped model board then in use, now remains. At that time it was unique, peculiar to Col. Dement's "Shanghai" and the modified "Shanghai," or "Gold Medal." The real value of this pattern is strongly attested by the fact that its principal features are now used by every prominent manufacturer of plows in the north-west. In 1857 the business was transferred to W. M. Todd & H. D. Dement, who conducted it for two years, selling nearly their entire produce to F. K. Orvis & Co., then a firm in the agricultural implement trade in Chicago.

In 1863 the whole business was sold to Messrs. Orvis & Co., who continued the manufacture of the various lines of goods, and adding others from time to time—building up a large trade extending over the entire north-west. They were succeeded by the Orvis Manufacturing Company, organized under the general laws of the State, May 12, 1877, which company, after two years and a half of largely increased trade, sold out to Charles H. Curtis, of Chicago, the President of the company and largest stock holder on the 12th of Nov., 1879. Mr. Curtis has been identified

with large manufacturing interests in this State for nearly forty years, and with his mental energy has pushed the business to its utmost—adding new articles, such as Seeders, Drills, Sully Plows, etc., all of which uphold the standard of excellence so long deservedly maintained by the Dixon Plow Works.

The works now occupy the greater portion of a magnificent factory building erected by Col. John Dement in 1869. This building is solidly built of stone and is four stories high on the front, measuring on the ground plan 96 by 142 feet. It is interesting to the older inhabitants of the county, who saw the beginning of this enterprise, to go through the works today and notice the wonderful changes which a few years have made in the methods of manufacture and their products. In the beginning a few small rooms furnished ample space to carry on the different branches of work, which were mainly done by hand. Now each department is a complete establishment by itself, doing all the work by machinery, and as the work on the parts assigned to it by the thousands, each piece being an exact duplicate of others of the same class. Judging from the only true criterion, quality of work, the Dixon Plow Works are among the first.

#### THE PLAX BAGGING MILL.

Under the proprietorship of Col. John Dement is an establishment that can not well be ignored in this sketch, as its relation to the manufacturing interests of Dixon is one of great importance. This mill is the first one of the kind established in the United States. The project was developed in 1865, and the mill erected in 1866. In February, 1867, the mill commenced operation under the proprietorship of Messrs. Dement & Jerome, but a few months later the firm name was changed to Dement & Jerome; but for some years Col. John Dement has been sole proprietor. Knowing the demand for the manufactured material, the mill was established on a large basis, and as soon as it commenced operation turned out 1400 yards of bagging each day. The original building was of stone, 45 by 75 feet, two stories high. Running three years in this building and finding the demand so much greater than their facilities could supply, Dement & Jerome increased their capacity in 1870 by extending the factory building back 60 feet, making the whole building 45 by 140 feet, and increasing the capacity of the mill to its present immense business of 3,300 yards of bagging cloth per day. The factory now gives employment to 30 men, women and girls. To illustrate the importance of this fax establishment and the number to whom it gives employment, it will be necessary to go out side the mill. The fax bagging mill uses 9,000 pounds of tow per day, which Col. Dement manufactures himself from 36,000 pounds of raw flax. The production of twenty-five to thirty acres. The mill runs at full capacity, about two hundred and eighty days

a year. This would make one thousand two hundred and sixty tons of flax tow manufactured into baling cloth by this factory during the year, produced from five thousand and forty tons of straw, or the product of from seven thousand to eight thousand one hundred and forty acres. The mill receives three car loads of tow per week, and ships two car loads of baling. Most of the product of this mill is shipped south to Memphis and Louisville, and some to St. Louis, from which places it is distributed throughout the cotton fields, where it is used to enclose the bolls of cotton.

#### SASH DOOR AND BLIND FACTORY.

In 1868 James Fletcher erected the building he now occupies, and commenced the manufacture of sash, doors, and blinds on quite an extensive scale. The factory building is 50 by 60 feet, and four stories high. Everything is done by machinery, so that all that is done to a door, sash or blind by hand is to put it together and smooth it up and sand paper it. Every tenon is cut by a machine that is set to fit the mortise, and every tenon is just exactly the same size and shape as is also every mortise. The machinery used by Mr. Fletcher is all of modern manufacture with late improvements; comprising such machines as planers, mortising, boring and steeking machines, saw-tables, sharpeners, forners, etc. His trade is mostly confined to this city, his present facilities being too small to supply a large foreign trade, yet he does sell stock to many of the neighboring towns. It is seldom that the busy hand of the saws at Fletcher's are not bound upon working days, and among the many proprietors of those working in this mill is the proprietor himself. The excellence of the work turned out by this factory is deserving of great success.

#### GRAND DETOUR PLOW WORKS.

This well-known establishment was founded in 1837, at Grand Detour, by John Deere, now of Moline, Illinois, and Moler Andrus, now deceased. They started what was styled a plow factory, in a little blacksmith shop (such as may be seen at a country cross-road), and two lorges were sufficient to meet their wants for some two years, when they became able to run an ordinary horse power, for the purpose of turning the grindstone and fanning the furnace fire. The building in which these labor saving arrangements were located stood some forty rods from the "factory" proper, and every plow ground and casting moulded had to be carried one way or the other, in the hand or on the shoulder, and the sight of the two proprietors lugging their work back and forth is called up with interest, in view of the great prosperity which each of them, by means of the same hard work and close management, ultimately attained. In this manner, and under these disadvantages, the business went on for about six years, when such success had attended the enterprise that they were enabled to put in steam. From this time

forward they continued adding machinery and improvements, and their progress was unintermitted. However, there was no means of sending their plows through the country, except by wagons, and few markets except the farm in even the best agricultural sections. Teams were loaded and sent throughout the country, and substantial farmers were supplied with plows, which they sold through the community, reserving a handsome commission for their services.

In 1848 Mr. Deere withdrew from the firm, which had experienced several changes, at one time presenting the array of Andrus, Deere, Tate & Gould, and started a plow factory at Moline, which grew and prospered from the first, and might with reason be termed a child of the Grand Detour Works. The business was run by Mr. Andrus alone, who was then joined by Col. Amos Forsworth, who, in our late war, was known as Lieutenant Colonel of the Thirty-Fourth Illinois, and died in the service in March 1862.

In October, 1857, the factory, which had been steadily growing and extending its limits, was burnt down, and upon the same site and remnants of the walls, a new factory was erected. In August, 1863, Theron Cumins, Esq., senior member of the present firm, became one of the proprietors, which took the name of Andrus & Cumins. Under their administration, the business was carried on until February, 1867, when Mr. Andrus died. Few men pass away more deeply and sincerely lamented than was Mr. Andrus. Upon his death, the business passed into Mr. Cumins' hands, and was by him conducted until June, 1868, when Col. H. T. Noble, of our city, became interested therein, the name of the firm being T. Cumins & Co.

In 1869 the works were moved to their present location at Dixon. In June, 1874, Mr. Dodge, for several years a merchant here, became interested therein, and the business was then conducted under the firm name of Cumins, Noble & Dodge. In June, 1879, the business was incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, the title being "Grand Detour Plow Company." Theron Cumins, Henry T. Noble, Orris B. Dodge, and Charles H. Noble being the incorporators. The plow works, which in the first years, only turned out from seventy-five to a hundred plows per year, are now producing nearly thousands, and distributing them by means of the steam horse over the limitless West. The works are located on a spacious triangular piece of land, between the depots of the Chicago & Northwestern and Illinois Central Railroads, with switches from both roads running to the shops and warehouses. The factory has a frontage on the north of 236 feet, and to the west of 364 feet. The forging room is 116 feet by 50; the grinding room, 44 feet by 50; the machine room, 30 feet by 70; the wood room, 150 feet by 50; the foundry, 60 feet by 40; and paint room on the second floor, 150 feet by 50; with a warehouse

for storing purposes, 120 feet by 50, two stories high. The workmen connected with the works are men of large experience in the manufacture of agricultural implements, many of whom have been identified with this establishment for ten, fifteen and twenty years, and some for even a quarter of a century. The good name fairly earned by the Grand Detour Plow is more than sustained by the very superior quality of goods now being made by the Grand Detour Plow Company.

#### OUR WANTS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

What we need more than anything else are manufactures of different kinds. With the rebuilding of the mills recently destroyed by fire, and the erection of others, the future of Dixon will become brighter than ever before. With the advantage of our extensive water power, capitalists looking around for desirable places to establish extensive manufacturing interests, will not overlook as if our wants are made known, and they are offered any kind of inducements whatever to come here and locate. There is no reason why Dixon, with her beautiful location, railroad communication with all parts of the United States, the rich agricultural country that stretches away in every direction, dotted with elegant farms tillied by an energetic and intelligent class of people, and her excellent water power, should not in the near future become a manufacturing town of great importance, and her population doubled thereby. Dixon's growth, compared with other towns in the neighborhood, has been prosperous, yet there is room for more to come, and there is a future prospect that speaks loudly, inviting the enterprising merchant, the capitalist and manufacturer to cast his lot with us. There is no point in the west that we are acquainted with, where capital could be invested in the manufacturing line to better advantage than in Dixon.

As a rule we believe that the prosperity of any town or city lies within its own reach. So we

believe it to be with our own city. The true secret of the success of a community is "Help one Another," or, in other words, patronize one another. Patronage of home institutions and home industry is the key that opens the door to our comfort and wealth. While we strive to aid and benefit our public schools, our churches, and our rail roads, let us not forget our manufacturers; let us lend our aid to any that we have and to all that may come to us. Let us patronize our merchants, printing offices, mechanics, professional men, and all worthy home enterprises in preference to others. By so doing we shall encourage those that we have, and induce others to bring in capital and embark in enterprises beneficial to the community. If we have establishments where carriages and wagons, home articles, machines and agricultural implements are made, let us foster and encourage them. Let us patronize what ever home produces, bearing in mind that our mutual interests are involved in the smallest as well as the greatest enterprises. Let it be our pride to say that the cities, towns and villages of Lee county are architects of their own fortunes the workers of their own success, and that they foster all home industry and energy. If we do this our star must rise until we bear as proud and far-known a name as any sister city to whose market we look for supplies in many manufactured articles. Let no stranger here to it say that we turned our backs upon his honest offers, or, viewed jealously his investment of means, for then we should make ourselves worthy of contempt and aggrandize competing cities through our own debasement. What we may secure by careful management, wise counsels, and by determined perseverance and energy, we will surely lose without them. Let us avail ourselves of those means which God has pleased to place in our reach and each labor for the prosperity and up-building of our city and county.



## BIOGRAPHY OF JOHN DIXON.

FROM THE "DIXON TELEGRAPH" OF JULY, 1876.

John Dixon, was born in the village of Rye, Westchester Co., N. Y., October 9, 1784. On reaching his majority he moved to New York city, where for fifteen years, he was the proprietor of a clothing store and merchant tailoring establishment. In addition to the successful prosecution of business he was untiring in his efforts for the promotion of temperance and religious interests, and in this connection became one of the active members and directors of the first Bible Society organized in the United States. This was organized February 11, 1809, under the name of the "Young Men's Bible Society of the City of New York." While thus engaged, premonitory symptoms of pulmonary disease manifested themselves, making a change of climate necessary. Under the advice of his physician he disposed of his interests in the city, and in 1830, in company with Mrs. Dixon and children, and his brother-in-law, Chas. S. Boyd, and family, (now of Princeton, Illinois,) set out for the then Great West—the Western prairies. Leaving New York in a covered wagon drawn by a single team, the emigrants passed through the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, to Pittsburgh, and there purchased a flat boat on which they embarked with their team and effects, and floated down the Ohio to Shaweetown, Illinois, then a little landing. Here they disembarked with their horses and goods, and after disposing of their boat, proceeded with their wagon north-west through pathless prairies and unbridged streams, to the vicinity in which is now Springfield. The prairie, now the present site of the State Capital, was then an open wild, without a human dwelling, though a few pioneers had reared their cabins in the bordering woodlands. On Fancy Creek, nine miles from the present site of Springfield, Mr. Dixon, made his home at the close of his journey of over seventy days. Sangamon county was not then set off, and nearly all Central and Northern Illinois was embraced in

the county of Madison. Early in the next year Sangamon county was formed; and the first court in the new county, was held at the house of John Kelly, the oldest settler near the site of Springfield. John Dixon was appointed foreman of the Grand Jury. In 1825, Judge Sawyer, whose circuit nominally embraced Northwestern Illinois, requested Mr. Dixon to take the appointment of Circuit Clerk and remove to Peoria, then often called Fort Clark, which he did, receiving also from Governor Coles the appointment of Recorder of Deeds for Peoria county, then just formed. Northern Illinois was not then divided into counties, and within the territory attached to Peoria county were the voting precincts of Galena and Chicago. This whole region, which now embraces thirty counties, then had but 1,236 inhabitants. While Mr. Dixon was at Peoria, the Government established a mail route from Peoria to Galena, crossing Rock river at the present site of our city, and going by way of Gratiot's Grove, in Wisconsin, to accommodate a little settlement there; mail to be carried once in two weeks on horse back. Mr. Dixon threw in a bid for the contract, which was accepted. In order to secure a passage for the mails over Rock River, he induced a man by the name of Ogze, a French and Indian half-breed, to establish a ferry at the point of crossing the river. This done, the travel to and from the lead mines so rapidly increased, that Ogze's coffers became full—too full indeed for his moral powers to bear; the result was constant inebriation. To avoid the delays in the transmission of mails, which these irregularities entailed, Mr. Dixon bought the ferry from Ogze, and April 11, 1830, removed his family to this point. From that date the place, as a point for crossing the river, became known as "Dixon's Ferry." At that time a large portion of the Winnebago Indians occupied this part of the Rock river country. Mr. Dixon so managed his business relations with



JOHN DIXON.

them as to secure their entire confidence and friendship, which on the return of the Saes and Foxes, under Black Hawk, in 1832, proved to be of inestimable benefit to himself and family. He was recognized by them as the "red man's friend," and in accordance with the universal practice of the race, who always give names to persons and places, descriptive of some incident or attribute pertaining to them, called him "Nadah-churab-sah,"—"Head-hair white," in allusion to his flowing white hair. It is also their custom to run compound words or sentences together, as in the case of this name, pronounced by them, "Na-chin-sah." Mr. Dixon's influence over the moral habits of the Indians of the Rock river valley soon entirely curtailed the profits of the few Indian traders who had established posts there. They found but a poor market for the whiskey with which they were wont to defraud the Indians out of their furs and other pelts. Owanico, or "Jabro," the Winnebago chief, who claimed and proved to be the "fast friend" of Mr. Dixon and family, became an active and energetic disciple of temperance. The advent of Black Hawk with his six hundred warriors, who were marching from the Des Moines river, in Iowa, up this valley, and who encamped at a spring a few hundred yards above the ferry, (now flooded by the back water of the mill dam) gave the Winnebago chiefs abundant opportunity to manifest their "fast friendship" for the family of Mr. Dixon. The former tribe were intending to take forcible possession of some territory on the upper Rock, embracing the Kishwaukee country, claimed to have been given them by the Pottawatomies. They were followed from Rock Island by General Atkinson with an army of regulars and volunteers, which compelled them to move north. Leaving the Rock at Fort Atkinson, in Wisconsin, they struck across the country to the Wisconsin river, thence to the Mississipp. Intending to cross the stream near the mouth of the Bodax, (Bad Axe) and return to Iowa. But at that point they were overtaken and severely punished. During the campaign Mr. Dixon's intimate knowledge of his country, and of the character and habits of the Indian race, enabled him to render important services to the country. This seems to have been appreciated, and to have gained for him the personal friendship and esteem of gentlemen of world-wide reputation. Among these were Colonel Baker, who was killed in the early part of the Rebellion, Albert Sidney Johnston, Zachary Taylor, Robert Anderson, afterwards hero of Sumter, Jefferson Davis, Abraham Lincoln, General Winfield Scott, and others. He entered the land upon which the most valuable part of the (now) city of Dixon stands, and in 1835 laid it off into town lots. In this connection it may not be improper to say that all the lands thus subdivided were disposed of from time to time, and the avails, instead of being hoarded up for individual

use, have gone to build up the general interests of the city. In 1838, when the general system of Internal Improvements in the State were adopted by the Legislature, and a vacancy occasioned by the death of Colonel Stevenson occurred in the State Board of Commissioners, he was appointed by Governor Duncan to fill the vacancy, and subsequently elected by the Legislature a permanent member of the Board; and although subsequent experience showed that the State had undertaken too much, resulting in failure, careful investigation manifested the fact that the business of the State Board had been honestly and faithfully executed. While serving as commissioner an incident occurred to Mr. Dixon that will not come out of place to notice in this connection. The pay rolls of the companies were made out and signed, and awaited Mr. Dixon to pay them off. It was his duty as Commissioner to draw the money at Springfield and pay the men. He had intrusted his draft on Springfield for collection to a contractor named Hamlin, who had secured with the proceeds, \$11,500. James F. Dixon and Smith Gilbrith started in pursuit, travelling by stage coach through many of the Eastern States, but returned without success. Soon after James and Elijah Dixon renewed the search, traveling in Canada and the Eastern and New England States, striking his trail once in Connecticut, but again losing it, they returned to Dixon without recovering anything. In the meantime Mr. Dixon had raised the money and paid the amount to the State. Sometime afterwards Hamlin drew a prize of \$25,000 in a lottery. With this and his other ill-gotten gains, he returned boldly to Galena, and opened a store. Mr. Dixon at once instituted suit and recovered judgment for the \$11,500 and interest. The sheriff closed out all of Hamlin's goods that he could get possession of, which paid the costs and expenses of the search for Hamlin, and a few hundred dollars of the stolen money. In 1840 Mr. Dixon visited Washington with application for the removal of the land office from Galena to Dixon, and General Scott, and perhaps other army officers, personal friends of Mr. Dixon, who had become familiar with the topography of the country during the Black Hawk war, promptly interested themselves in his behalf, and introduced him to President Van Buren, who at once signed the order for removal. Of his domestic life it is becoming to make but bare mention. His wife, formerly Rebecca Sherwood, of New York, a lady of superior mental capacity and energy, shared with her husband the toils and privations incident to frontier life, and exerted a moral and religious influence, which will be felt in this section for all time. She, with all her children, ten in number, passed away before the husband and father. Mr. Dixon continued to live here in the city that he loved, where for nearly fifty years he had walked the Indian trail as well as paved streets,

nath his death, which occurred Thursday, July 6, 1876. His death was expected, as he had been gradually failing for several weeks; yet when the muted tones of the bell, on Thursday morning, announced the sad news that the beloved founder of our town had passed away, it carried sorrow to every heart, for young and old alike had learned to love and revere him as a father. His city made suitable arrangements for the funeral which occurred on the next Sabbath. The services took place at the north front of the Court House, where platforms and seats had been erected for the purpose. Early in the day delegations composed of civic societies from neighboring cities arrived, each headed by a band of music. Many of the stores and public buildings were deeply draped in mourning. The body was laid in state at the Court House, under guard of Sir Knights Templar. The remains retained the pleasant features of life, and were looked upon for the last time by ten thousand people, who "loved with a love that was more than love," the good Father Dixon. "The honor shown his remains in death was truly a worthy remembrance of a long life of purity and goodness. It has been the custom and inclination of the human race from the earliest historical ages, to pay honors at burial ceremonies of military heroes and political leaders, and the men of wealth have often been thus honored and followed to their graves by the multitudes, but seldom in all these ages, has there been such ovation and general marks of respect tendered to a man in the common walks of life as was witnessed at the obsequies of Father Dixon. It was emphatically an ovation of the masses, and especially of the old settlers of this and adjoining counties, who came to pay their respects to the last on earth of Father Dixon. It would reasonably be supposed that a man so universally loved and respected as the dead was Father Dixon, never had an enemy in the world, but this was not so; at least in his earlier days—for in his long and active life he had battled earnestly and unflinchingly against evil in every form, and by such firmness for the right he did, as might be expected, antagonize men who could not understand, or if they understood, had not the souls to appreciate those noble characteristics which raised him far above ordinary men. Yet it can truly be said that "none knew him but to love;" or "named him but to praise," because those with whom he had met in the strife incident to life were at last led to acknowledge the nobleness of his character. It was not alone that he was unselfish, hospitable, kind and generous, patriotic and loving, which gained him the respect of all, but it was that when in active life, he was always unswervingly for the cause of human progress and the right, and stubbornly opposed evil. Though his wife had passed away more than twenty-nine years before, and he had outlived all his children, and it could long since truly be said that

"The mossy marbles rest  
On the lips that he had prest  
In their bloom,  
And the homes he loved to hear  
Had been engraved for many a year  
On the tomb."

Yet he was surrounded by kind and loving hearts and willing hands that administered to his every want. It was well, as a lesson to the generation of man coming after him, that such marked respect should be paid to the closing life of such a man. It was well that such a concourse of people should assemble here as had never before congregated in one day in this his own city. It was well that the Court House and other public buildings should be deeply draped in the habiliments of woe, for a truly good man lay dead in its halls.

At a citizen's meeting, held on Friday evening, after Father Dixon's death, the following memorial was prepared and spread upon the records of the city:

#### IN MEMORY OF JOHN DIXON.

We, the people of Dixon, called upon to mourn the departure of him who gave our city existence and its name, desire to place among its records this testimonial of our appreciation of his virtues. His neighbors, many of us have known him for a third of a century, who, during all that time, have looked up to him, and have loved him as a father, with one accord, have assembled to pay this tribute to his memory. John Dixon, after a life extended far beyond the life ordinarily assigned to man, at the ripe age of nearly ninety-two years, one half of which had been passed in this town so loved by him, which he had made, has departed from the scene of his earthly labors. Having long outlived all that were, by the ties of blood, nearest and dearest to him, his weary pilgrimage at last is ended. He has gone to the summer land. A man of great strength of mind, force of character, and determination of purpose; yet he has lived and died without an enemy. Forgetful of himself, he lived for others, a pure and unselfish life. He was that noblest work of God—an honest man—and he has "So lived that when the summons came to join The innumerable caravan, that moves To that mysterious realm where each shall take His chamber in the silent halls of death, He went, not as the quarry slave of night, Scourged to his dungeon; but, sustained and soothed By an approaching light, Great as the gates of hell, Like one that wraps the drapery of his couch Around him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Born at the close of the Revolution and reared in its spirit, when the "cradle of liberty" was swinging to and fro with a new-born nation, Father Dixon was imbued with all those noble principles of patriotism characteristic of that age, and which he retained through life. He lived to see his country grow from a vast wilderness, with only about the number of inhabitants contained in our State, to a great nation of forty millions. When he was born there was hardly a white inhabitant in

all the great states of Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and indeed the entire North-west, now the most flourishing part of the United States. A dozen years before the American colonies were the most loyal part of the British Empire, and on the political horizon no speck indicated the struggle that had just closed and established the great Republic of the world. There were then only about half a dozen newspapers in this vast country, while railroads, telegraphs, and steam engines had not entered into the remotest conceptions of this man. It is in deed a very pertinent fact, in this connection, that when Fulton took his first steam boat up the Hudson on a trial trip, John Dixon was a passenger, and paid the great inventor of steamboats the first money as fare ever received

as a return for his immense expenses and time. So it was our own Father Dixon, who paid the first steamboat fare ever paid; who was the first patron of steam, that now earns, every moment, its millions of dollars. Fulton at first refused to receive the money, but Father Dixon with his innate principles of justice, insisted that he should, and it was only by his determination to be just that gave him the satisfaction of being honored, as we said. He lived through a history in which has been allotted more important events in their bearing upon the happiness of the world, than in any other which has elapsed since the creation. Now he has gone down to his grave full of honors, such as any hero of any age might envy.

## OUR FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE.

BY DR. OLIVER EVERETT.

In looking over, recently, some old papers, I came across the subscription paper for building the first school house in Dixon, and have thought that it would not be without interest to many of your readers. This paper was got up in January, 1837, and contains many names familiar to the old settlers. The subscription paper reads as follows:

We, the subscribers, agree to pay the sums severally attached to our names, for the purpose of erecting a school house in the town of Dixon. Said school house shall be for the teaching of Primary schools, and shall be open for religious meetings of all denominations, when not occupied by the schools. Said house shall be one story high and at least forty feet by twenty on the ground, and shall contain two rooms which shall be connected by a door or doors, as may be thought proper. The subscribers shall meet on Monday, the 26th day of February next, at 6 o'clock, P. M., and choose three trustees to superintend the building of said house. The trustees shall have power to collect the money subscribed, contract for and purchase materials for said house, and employ workmen to build the same. They shall see that it is done in a plain, workmanlike manner; so far as the funds shall warrant.

NAMES.		NAMES.	
Jas. P. Dixon,	\$25	00 J. W. Hamilton,	\$ 5 00
Oliver Everett,	25 00	Geo. L. Chapman,	5 00
John Wilson,	25 00	W. H. Rowe,	10 00
Caleb Talmage,	20 00	J. W. Dixon,	10 00
J. B. Barr,	10 00	E. W. Cowell,	25 00
Samuel Leonard,	5 00	E. A. Statia,	5 00
Jacob Rue,	5 00	S. W. Johnson,	10 00
E. B. Brown,	10 00	00 Robert Murray,	10 00
Samuel Gatten,	5 00	Sam'l C. McClure,	15 00
Edwin Hile,	5 00	Mrs. E. N. Hamilton	15 00
Edgar Dixon,	15 00	Horace Thompson,	5 00
Hiram P. Parks,	20 00	Mrs. R. Dixon,	20 00
John Q. Adams,	10 00	L. D. Butler,	5 00
W. L. Dixon,	5 00	M. L. Dixon,	5 00
Primary schools,	20 00	Mrs. A. Talmage,	5 00
Seth D. Brittain,	10 00	Mrs. M. H. Barr,	10 00
If he settles here,		10 00	
Samuel Hill,	5 00	J. W. Murphy,	10 00
Alanson Diekmann,	5 00	N. W. Brown,	5 00
John A. Miller,	5 00	S. M. Bowman,	10 00
W. P. Burroughs,	15 00	00 John Richards,	10 00
John Dixon,	10 00	C. F. Hubbard,	5 00
I. S. Boardman,	20 00	W. W. Graham,	5 00
A friend,	10 00	T. L. Hubbard,	5 00
00 John Carr,	5 00	00 George Rip,	5 00
M. Mc Cabe,	10 00	Wm. Graham,	5 00
Allen Wiley,	10 00		

It will be noticed that many of the subscribers were persons living some distance in the country, and of those who came to the county during the

next season. The reason that Father Dixon's name was not at or near the head of the list is, that he was away that winter to Virginia, then the Capital of the State. It may also be noticed that the matter dragged somewhat, as such enterprises often do, and the ladies took it up. Mrs. Dixon giving the largest subscription on the list and Mrs. Hamilton a generous amount. Again it may be noticed that one John Q. Adams, not our present John Q. Adams, but an unworthy bearer of a great name, in subscribing put two 00 where the dollars ought to have been, making his subscription but ten cents. When his attention was called to it he said it was just as he intended to have it. His name was dealt with as was fashionable at that time; it was expunged.

The old school house was built during the summer of 1837, of the size and form specified in the subscription paper, about twenty rods west of the cemetery, on or near lot one, block sixty-nine, now occupied by Harry Smith. It was built perfectly plain, without a cornice, and enclosed with andressed oak siding and a hard wood shingle roof. The inside consisted of two rooms, one six feet by twenty extending across the end of the building; serving as an entrance way or vestibule to the main room, which was twenty by thirty-four feet, with three windows on either side and one at the end of the room opposite the entrance. It was plastered on the inside with a single coat of coarse brown mortar, and was warmed during winter with a wood fire in a large box stove. In 1831 it was moved down to the north end of lot five, block seventeen, on the east side of Ottawa street, just south of the residence of Dr. N. Nash, now occupied by Daniel McKenney, fronting to the north upon the alley. There it remained for several years, and was used for school house, meeting house, and court house, (the first three terms of the Circuit Court of Lee County were held in it.) Elections and political meetings and conventions, were held in it, and it was always used for what ever other purpose the people might congregate.

The old school house was very plain, rough and uninviting to look upon, but there are many recollections associated with it which are always dwelt upon by the early settlers with great interest, and should make the memory of it dear to the people of Dixon. It was within its rough brown walls that the venerable and revered Bishop Chase, then Senior Bishop of the American Episcopal church, first preached to the scattered members of his fold as were bereabout, and broke to them the bread of the sacrament, and where Rev. James De Pul, a man of rare culture and gentle and genial social qualities, preached for more than twelve months. It was there that the Methodist and Baptist churches of this place were formed and nurtured in their infancy.

The Rev. Dr. Hitchcock and Rev. Philo Judson, who for nearly half a century, have been among

the foremost laborers in the great and beneficent organization to which they belong, then in the vigor of early manhood, each preached his two years there. The Rev. Thomas Powell, a devoted missionary of the Baptist denomination, well known among the early settlers of an inconsiderable portion of the State for his indefatigable and faithful service in the religious interest of the people, then often living remote from each other and other destitute or but poorly supplied with competent religious teachers; often held services in the old school house, and officiated at the formation of the Baptist Church of Dixon. Also the Rev. Burton Carpenter, the remembrance of whose labors here is cherished by many of the old settlers, and, who, in the high-standing he afterwards attained in the denomination to which he belongs, and in a life of great usefulness in another part of the State, he has not disappointed the expectations of his early friends; commenced his labors in the ministry and preached about three years in this same old school house. During nearly the whole time religious services were held in the old school house, the Methodist and Baptist congregations occupied it alternately. The Methodist clergymen preaching at Juliet Grove or Sugar Grove, and Mr. Carpenter at Buffalo Grove the intervening Sabbath.

In the spring of 1840 there was a convention of the Whig party of the Jo Davies Representative District, which embraced the whole North-western part of the State, held at the school house, and Thomas Drummond, known in this generation as Judge Drummond of the United States Court at Chicago, then a young lawyer of Galena, was nominated as a candidate for member of the house of Representatives in the State Legislature. He represented an extent of territory now constituting nearly two Congressional Districts. Among the teachers in the old school house was the late lamented W. W. Henton, whom the citizens of Dixon have seen rise by his industry and legal acquirements, from the school master's chair to the bench.

In the beginning of the year 1843 the Methodist church was dashed and dedicated and the Court House was so far completed that the courts were held in it and was used for religious and political meetings, and the old school house fell into comparative desuetude.

Sometime during the year 1844 it began to be noticed about that John Van Arman claimed the old school house as his property, as he had purchased the lot upon which it stood. One day the people were notified that upon a tap on their windows the night following, they might know that they were wanted at the school house and the less said about it the better. Upon arriving there we found it surrounded by a great crowd of people at work. Some were raising the building with crow bars and levers, others adjusting planks and rollers under the sills. There was that prince of

movers of old buildings, N. G. H. Morrill, as usual directing operations, not giving authoritative orders to others, but by taking hold and showing them how, by doing the major part of the work himself. The instructions crowd tugged away in silence or talking in whispers or suppressed tones, now moving the heavy oak building an inch or two and again making a more fortunate move and getting ahead several inches or one or two feet, until it was thought the building was entirely over the edge of the lot, but by pacing from the street and making observations in the dark it was thought best to give it just another little shove to make the thing sure. So all took hold with a will, and the old school house began to move again and the rollers and made a lunge of twelve or fifteen feet, creaking and groaning as it went, as if conscious of the ignominies of trade to which it was destined, for the time

came, my pen grows shaky as I write it, when it was used for Hignor settling. Upon this last move of the old school house every tongue seemed loosened, and all gave vent to their satisfaction in a wild shout or cheer, which rang through the darkness and by its heartiness (so I was informed) quieted the fears of some of the ladies whose husbands had at the tap on the window, so noisily bounced out of bed and left them without saying a word. About this time Mr. Morrill, upon a vote of two freeholders at an election held for the purpose of voting upon the question of building a new school house, was building the stone structure for that purpose back of the Nachesa House, so the old building was sold and moved down on to the corner of Main and Hennepin streets, and was used for various purposes of trade, and finally burned in the great fire on Main street in 1850.

## OLD SETTLER RECORD

OF DIXON AND VICINITY.

[Prepared August, 1880.]

NAME.	NATIVE STATE OR COUNTRY.	YEAR OF ARRIVAL.	DATE OF SETTLEMENT.	REMARKS.
Alexander, P. M.	New York	1820	July 1838.	Living in Dixon.
Ayres, O. F.	New York	1809	Fall of 1839.	do do
Ayres, Ladiam	New York	1834	do do	do do
" Charles	Pennsylvania	1808	1844.	Died November 1, 1849.
" Thomas H.	Pennsylvania	1824	1844.	Ladiam's son—now in Ogic county.
" Ladiam Smith	Pennsylvania	1841	1844.	" son, living in Palmyra.
" John	Pennsylvania	1841	1844.	Died in Minneapolis, August 3, 1880.
" Thomas H.	New York	1815	1846.	Brother of Ladiam. Living in Bureau Co. Died at Quincy in 1878
Armstrong, Jacob.	New York	1815	1840.	Now at Fort Collins, Colorado.
Aldrich, Col. Cyrus	Rhode Island	1839	1842.	Died in Minneapolis a few years ago.
Atkinson, Wesley.	Indiana	1830	1838.	Settled in Palmyra—left about 1855.
Ames, Henry C.	Ohio	1828	1845.	Moved to Ohio.
Brooks, J. B.	Maine	1820	1843.	Father of Dr. H. J. Brooks—died Dec. 1853
Brookner, Christopher	Germany	1817	1837.	Died Oct. 3, 1879
" Daniel	Germany	1803	1837.	Died July 23, 1854.
" Henry	Germany	1815	1846.	Living in Dixon.
Brookner, Edward H.	Germany	1823	1840.	do do
Barnes, U. O.	New Jersey	1805	1845.	do do
Barber, National	New York	1817	1857.	do do
Bowman, S. M.	Pennsylvania	1807.	1837.	Now in Kansas City, Mo.
" Elijah	Pennsylvania	1840	1840.	Cousin of S. M.—Living in Boone county.
Banner, Thomas S.	New York	1827.	1839.	Moved to Wisconsin.
Bayley, Carlton	New York	1819	1839.	Died about 1873.
" Richard	New York	1828.	1838.	Died in New York City about 1850.
Barnoughs, Wm. F.	New York	1815	1835.	Moved to Wisconsin.
" Henry	New York	1810.	1840.	Moved to California. Is dead.
Barr, James B.	New York	1818.	1846.	dead.
Bogardus, Wesley	New York	1826	1836.	dead.
Benjamin, Horace	New York	1812	1838.	Died October 28, 1850.
" James	New York	1817	1838.	Died in Dixon.
Benjamin, William J.	New York	1811	1844.	Living in Palmyra.



NAME.	NATIVE STATE OR COUNTRY.	YEAR OF BIRTH.	DATE OF SETTLEMENT.	REMARKS.
Beardley, Daniel	New York	1835	1835	Died in Palmyra in 1839.
Bethcia, William W.	Tennessee	1812	May 3, 1835.	Living in Dixon.
Buckalo, Joseph	Pennsylvania	1811	1833	Died September 11, 1832.
" Alfred K.	Pennsylvania	1809	1843	Died March 24, 1841.
Brown, Abram	Canada	1816	1837	Living in South Dixon.
Brown, David	Connecticut	1800	1836	Died in 1849.
Brown, John	Vermont	1808	1836	do August 1878.
" Nathan	Vermont	1809	1837	Living in Connecticut.
Brown, Thomas W.	Connecticut	1840	1839	Living in Franklin Grove.
Brown, B. B.	1835	1835	Started a ferry at the J T Lawrence place.	
Buch, William T.	Kentucky	1835	1835	Went to Iowa in 1843. [Died in 1838.]
" E. B.	1844	1844	do do	
Bennett, George	Kentucky	1829	1839	Living in Palmyra.
Blair, Martin	Pennsylvania	1819	1847	Died January 3, 1865.
Burket, John N.	Pennsylvania	1821	1849	Died in Iowa, September 1873.
" Peter	Pennsylvania	1822	1849	do do
" Rev. Jacob N.	Pennsylvania	1824	1848	Living in Washington.
" Henry F.	Pennsylvania	1826	1846	Living in South Dixon.
Burket, Calvin	Pennsylvania	1829	1846	Living in Dixon.
Boardman, L. S.	New York	1810	1837	do do
" T. D.	New York	1812	1837	do do
Birdsall, David H.	New York	1810	1837	Died in December 1868.
Brower, Martin W.	Germany	1816	1839	Living in Palmyra.
Buell, Lewis	Germany	1819	1839	Died in Nelson 1872.
Bartell, Harman	Germany	1818	1839	Moved to Carroll county.
Bages, John	Ohio	1823	1836	Living in Iowa.
Becker, Charles A.	Prussia	1810	1839	Died February 7, 1839.
Briggs, Levi	Vermont	1831	1848	Living in Harlow.
Beach, William W.	New York	1830	1840	Died in Geneseo.
Berlet, Timothy A.	New York	1831	1847	Living in Palmyra.
Bereton, Joseph	Pennsylvania	1797	1837	Living east of Dixon.
Brubaker, A. J.	Pennsylvania	1830	1848	Living in Dixon.
Bivins, William	New York	1735	1848	Died June 14, 1857.
" William H.	New York	1834	1845	Living in Dixon.
Beebe, John	Massachusetts	1822	1848	do do
Brandon, Edward	Pennsylvania	1829	1839	do do
" Benjamin	Pennsylvania	1838	1838	Living near Nachusa.
" John	Pennsylvania	1839	1839	Died about 1839.
Baker, E. B.	Vermont	1830	1830	Here as early as 1840. Living in Dixon.
Beebe, Noah	New Hamp.	1832	1836	Died in Palmyra in 1834.
" Allen A.	New Hamp.	1836	1836	Living in Palmyra.
Bishop, Caldwell	New York	1818	1837	Living in Dixon.
Bradshaw, W. T.	New York	1838	1838	do do
Baker, Tait	New York	1838	1838	do do
Brookie, John	Kentucky	1837	1837	Started a ferry at Dr. Everett's farm.
Carr, John	Scotland	1837	1837	Living in St. Louis.
Cutshaw, John	1837	1837	1837	Went to Hong Kong, China.
" Joshua	Ohio	1838	1838	do do
Crawford, Joseph	Pennsylvania	1815	May 1839	Living in Dixon.
Crowell, Moses T.	New Hamp.	1817	1839	Went to California.
" Solon	New Hamp.	1838	1838	Living in Ogles county.
Codwell, J. C.	Ireland	1840	1840	do do
Crosby, Edward	New York	1810	1837	Died at Fulton.
" Elsieha	New York	1810	1830	do do
Coe, Frederick W.	New York	1836	1836	do do
" Henry	New York	1839	1839	do do
Chamberlin, Cyrus	New York	1814	1839	Living in Grand Detour.
Chapman, Charles	New York	1831	1831	do do
Chapman, Elsieha	New York	1831	1831	do do
Chase, George W.	Mass.	1837	1837	do do
" Charles T.	Maine	1839	1839	Died August 23, 1851.
Charters, Alexander	Ireland	1817	1838	Died at Hazelwood farm Sept. 18, 1878.
" Samuel	Ireland	1820	1838	Nephew of Alexander.
Carley, James	New York	1823	1839	Died in Geneseo.
Campbell, Alexander	England	1823	1839	Living in California.
Cantrill, Samuel	1822	1822	1839	Moved to Sangamon county.
" David	1836	1836	1836	Living in Iowa—moved in 1853.
Crafton, George	Vermont	1824	1834	do do
Columbian, Charles	Ohio	1847	1847	Moved to Kansas about 1854.
Courtright, Joseph	Pennsylvania	1837	1837	Died in September 1840.
" Elsieha	Pennsylvania	1840	1840	Died November 1, 1871.
" Abraham	Pennsylvania	1838	1849	Living in Nebraska.
" John	Pennsylvania	1840	1840	Living two miles east of Dixon.
" Christopher	Pennsylvania	1840	1840	Living in Nebraska.
" Jacob B.	Pennsylvania	1836	1840	Living in Nebraska.
" G. W.	Pennsylvania	1838	1840	Died in the spring of 1872.
" Erasmus	Pennsylvania	1838	1840	Living in Dixon.
Cropey, J. M.	New York	1833	1839	Living in Dixon.

NAME.	NATIVE STATE OR COUNTRY.	YEAR OF BIRTH.	DATE OF SETTLEMENT.	REMARKS.
Caghaman, Frank	Pennsylvania	1841	1841	do do
Cannell, J. James	Pennsylvania	1814	1838	do do
Covell, E. W.	New York	1812	1836	do do
Cogswell, Abner	New York	1812	1836	Living in Nelson township.
Cogswell, Jerry	England	1840	1840	Died in 1854.
Clay, Charles	New Hamp.	1809	1844	do do
" William H.	England	1821	1845	Died February 24, 1854.
Cleaver, Joseph	Pennsylvania	1820	1848	do do
Cromwell, Thomas	Pennsylvania	1778	1839	Died July 23, 1854.
Clute, John W.	New York	1820	1840	do do
Crary, Nelson	Pennsylvania	1819	1839	Living in Dixon.
" Beech	Pennsylvania	1819	1839	Living in Iowa.
Dixon, John	Ireland	1839	1839	Living at Elkhorne Grove.
" James P.	New York	1824	April 11, 1839	Died July 6, 1876.
" John W.	New York	1817	do	Died April 3, 1854.
" Elijah	New York	1817	do	Died March 30, 1847.
Davy, James	England	1819	do	Died March 12, 1844.
Dutcher, Frederick H.	Connecticut	1805	1840	Died in Ogles county.
" Wells	Connecticut	1808	1838	Living in Amherst.
Ditts, George	Pennsylvania	1838	1838	do do
Durnan, Mark	Ireland	1813	1839	Living in Dixon.
" James	Ireland	1820	1839	Died about 1874.
Depuy, Harmon	Pennsylvania	1797	1833	Settled Amherst 15, 1856
" Jacob	Pennsylvania	1829	1839	Living in Dixon.
" William	Pennsylvania	1831	1839	do do
Depuy, Jonathan	Pennsylvania	1811	1846	Living in Dixon.
" Moser	Pennsylvania	1811	1846	Moved to Iowa.
Dingman, John	Canada	1840	1840	do do
Dement, John	Tennessee	1805	1838	Moved family here in 1845. Lives in Dixon.
" Henry D.	Illinois	1815	1840	Living in Dixon.
" Charles	Illinois	1818	1840	Living in Dixon.
Dickerson, Amos	Illinois	1818	1840	Died in December 1875.
Dyko, Garrett F.	Illinois	1818	1840	do do
" Solomon	New York	1738	1841	Died in 1838.
Duffy, Hugh	Ireland	1839	1843	Died September 7, 1859.
Dunley, Jeremiah	New York	1838	1840	Moved to Iowa.
Davis, William J.	New York	1797	1841	do do
" J. P.	New York	1839	1840	Living in Dixon.
Davis, Joseph	New York	1839	1840	do do
" W.	Canada	1821	1840	Died November 26, 1851.
" Berman	Canada	1825	1841	Died December 12, 1853.
Davis, Cyrus A.	Canada	1820	1842	Died November 6, 1854.
Daley, John	New Hamp.	1825	1839	Settled in Dixon.
Everett, Dr. Oliver	Massachusetts	1811	1849	Living in Oregon.
Emery, John	Massachusetts	1811	1849	Settled in Dixon.
Eddy, Otis A.	Pennsylvania	1811	1849	do do
" Nelson H.	Massachusetts	1811	1849	do do
Evans, Josiah	Massachusetts	1811	1849	Died March 10, 1840.
" John	Pennsylvania	1811	1849	Moved to Chicago.
" Israel	Pennsylvania	1811	1849	Died March 10, 1878.
Eustace, John V.	Pennsylvania	1832	1843	Living in Ashton.
" John V.	Pennsylvania	1832	1843	Died Jan. 1854.
Fuller, Stephen	Pennsylvania	1821	1843	Living in Dixon.
Fellows, Stephen	New Hamp.	1776	1839	Living three miles east of Dixon.
" Michael	New Hamp.	1810	1810	do do
" Simon	New Hamp.	1810	1810	Living in Wisconsin.
" Samuel	New Hamp.	1810	1810	Living in Whiteside county.
" William	New Hamp.	1810	1810	Died in June 1863.
" Alfred	New Hamp.	1822	1822	do do
" George	New Hamp.	1822	1822	Living in Wisconsin.
" Albin	New Hamp.	1822	1822	Living in Iowa.
" Stephen	New Hamp.	1822	1822	Living in California.
" Stephen	New Hamp.	1822	1822	Died in 1865.
Fryer, John	Pennsylvania	1813	1838	Living in Dixon.
Fender, Abolom	North Carolina	1813	May 1, 1853.	Died in 1848.
" Martin	North Carolina	1813	do	Died about 1860.
" Solomon	North Carolina	1813	do	Died in Palmyra.
" Jesse	Indiana	1813	do	Living in Palmyra.
" Hiram	Indiana	1813	do	Living in Missouri.
" James	Indiana	1813	do	Died at Elkhorne Grove, August 21, 1879.
Foot, George	New York	1828	1839	Died in January 1880.
Forrest, Dr.	New York	1828	1839	Died in 1879.
Fish, John	Massachusetts	1753	1814	Returned to Kentucky.
" O. H.	Vermont	1813	1845	Living in Iowa.
Forst, Patrick	Ireland	1811	1846	Living in Kansas.
Friedenbach, Fred	Germany	1826	1838	Died September 7, 1851.
Graham, Capt. Hugh	England	1811	1838	Died in Palmyra about 1870.
" William W.	New York	1817	1838	Died in New York City about 1853.
" William W.	New York	1817	1838	Died in Montana territory in March 1878.

NAME.	NATIVE STATE OR COUNTRY.	DATE OF SETTLEMENT.	REMARKS.
Gilbrath, Smith.	New York.	1810	1835. Died February 5, 1848.
Garrison, John.	Pennsylvania.	1808	1848. Died in Nebraska in 1878.
Garrison, Mathias F.	Pennsylvania.	1809	1840. Died in Nebraska—moved in 1878.
Grob, Jacob.	Pennsylvania.	1808	1848. Living in South Dixon.
" Ephraim.	England.	1802	1848. do do do
Gutcheuse, John.	Pennsylvania.	1814	1848. do do do
Grimes, Thomas.	Pennsylvania.	1807	1841. Died March 10, 1849.
Goble, James.	Pennsylvania.	1811	1837. Living in Dixon.
Gray, A. F.	New York.	1809	1837. Died in Missouri in 1876.
Gaston, Chasney.	Pennsylvania.	1812	1837. Spring of 1839.
" Rev. A.	New York.	1809	do
" Chancey T.	New York.	1812	do
" Levi.	New York.	1814	do
" Charles E.	New York.	1817	do
" Henry.	New York.	1822	do
Gates, Benjamin.	England.	1812	1841. died.
" Joseph.	"	1811	"
" James.	"	1812	"
" William.	"	1813	Living in Ohio.
Gregory, J. B.	Ohio.	1810	1832. Living in Michigan.
Hubbard, Charles F.	New York.	1817	1837. Died in 1854.
" Thomas S.	New York.	1817	1837. Brother of Charles. Living in Kansas.
Hubbard, Oliver.	New Hamp.	1815	1835. Father of M. D. Hubbard. Died in 1839.
Hlpe, E. W.	New York.	1816	1836. Died May, 1874.
Hamilton, J. W.	New York.	1805	1835. Went to California.
Hart, Lemuel.	Canada.	1837	do
Hetler, Nathan.	Pennsylvania.	1817	1837. Died May 21, 1877.
" Hiram.	Pennsylvania.	1817	do Living near Dixon.
" Jesse.	Pennsylvania.	do	do do do
" Jeremiah.	Pennsylvania.	do	do do do
" John.	Pennsylvania.	do	do do do
Hetler, John.	Germany.	1809	1840. Living in Dixon.
Henton, W. W.	New York.	1814	1840. Died in December 1877.
" James.	New York.	1810	1840. Living near Dixon.
Herrick, Samuel.	New York.	1807	July 4, 1860.
" O. F.	Canada.	1856	do Living in Bureau county.
Holly, George.	New York.	1808	1838. Living in 1843.
" Angnette.	New York.	1808	"
Holly, Jesse.	Canada.	1835	dead.
" David A.	Canada.	1835	dead.
" James S.	Canada.	1808	1838. Living in Palmyra.
Hamil, Patrick.	Ireland.	1818	1838. Died in 1862.
Hogan, John.	Ireland.	1818	1840. Living in St. Louis.
Hilton, Pleasant.	Kentucky.	1810	1840. Died in July 1844.
Hankerson, James.	New York.	1810	1840. Died in California.
Hollbrook, L. G.	"	1810	"
" Charles.	"	1810	Living in Poio.
Hatch, Charles.	New Hamp.	1814	1840. Living in Dixon.
" James.	New Hamp.	1810	do do do [Here as early as 1836].
Howard, S. G. P.	"	1810	1839. Moved to Chicago.
Herrick, George L.	Vermont.	1815	1837. Came to Grand Detour in 1837, Dixon in '41.
Hutton, Fletcher.	Pennsylvania.	1818	1838. Died in Palmyra May 27, 1873.
" Naomiab.	Pennsylvania.	1813	1838. Living at State Center, Illinois.
" William.	Pennsylvania.	1813	1838. Living in Sterling.
Harris, Joseph L.	New York.	1816	1846. Died in Palmyra about 1868.
Haris, William.	New York.	1812	1846. do do do
Heock, Dwight.	England.	1815	1845. do do do
Hanus, Anton.	Germany.	1800	1835. Died in July 1878.
Johnson, Samuel.	Michigan.	1836	1846. Died at Fulton, Illinois.
Johnson, George.	Michigan.	1819	1839. Died January 15, 1878.
" Avery.	Michigan.	1839	1839. Living in Dixon.
" Henry.	Michigan.	1839	1839. dead.
" Charles.	Michigan.	1839	1839. dead.
Johnson, William Y.	Massachusetts.	1818	1838. Died in Iowa, August 28, 1873.
" J. M.	Massachusetts.	1814	1838. Living in Palmyra.
Johnson, Ebenezer H.	Massachusetts.	1810	1839. do
" Harvey E.	New York.	1819	1841. do
Jenns, Albert.	New Hamp.	1817	1836. Moved to Iowa.
James, William.	New York.	1817	1837. Died about 1845.
Jaynes, John.	Pennsylvania.	1806	1836. do
Kerr, M. P.	Pennsylvania.	1807	1836. Moved to Galena, Illinois.
Kerr, James N.	Pennsylvania.	1807	1838. do
Kerr, William.	Pennsylvania.	1803	1840. Brother of James.
Koote, Daniel.	Pennsylvania.	1803	1840. do
Klosterman, Earnest.	Germany.	1803	1845. Living in Palmyra.
Kineto, William.	Pennsylvania.	1824	1845. Living in Iowa.
Kineto, John.	Pennsylvania.	1810	1840. do
Kepfinger, Jacob.	Pennsylvania.	1806	1836. Living in Palmyra.
Kennedy, James.	"	1839	1839. dead.

NAME.	NATIVE STATE OR COUNTRY.	DATE OF SETTLEMENT.	REMARKS.
Kennedy, William.	New York.	1818	1839. Died in 1874.
Kelsey, Henry.	Missouri.	1827	1845. Living in Dixon.
Kellogg, Oliver.	New York.	1788	1843. Died in December, 1849.
Kirkpatrick.	"	1843	"
Loveland, Odis.	New York.	1787	1887. Died September 29, 1839.
" Richard B.	New York.	1818	1837. do
" H. G.	New York.	1818	1839. Died August 29, 1851.
Lovejoy, James.	New York.	1818	1839. Living in California.
Little, J. T.	Maine.	1817	1839. dead.
Lammison, Joseph.	Ireland.	1820	1846. Now in Washington.
" John.	Pennsylvania.	1798	1838. dead.
Lahey, William.	Ireland.	1818	1838. Son of Joseph.
Lord, John.	New Hamp.	1814	1845. Died in July, 1854.
" John L.	New Hamp.	1829	1838. Died in January, 1873.
" Augustus.	New Hamp.	1829	1838. Living in Palmyra.
Law, David.	New York.	1813	1839. dead.
" David H.	New York.	1831	1839. Died October 3, 1845.
" William.	New York.	1819	1839. Living in Sterling.
Lawrence, J. Tharp.	Ireland Jamaica	1819	1839. Died in New York City in 1847.
" J. Tharp, Jr.	"	1819	1839. Living in Palmyra.
Lawrence, John.	New York.	1819	1840. Living in New York City.
Lane, Charles A.	England.	1810	1840. Living in Palmyra.
Lugnah, J. G.	Canada.	1810	1839. Living in Pennsylvania.
McKenney, Mathew.	Canada.	1810	1839. Living in New Orleans.
" Peter.	New York.	1798	1836. Living in 1847.
" Daniel B.	New York.	1816	1836. Died March 27, 1870.
" Jacob.	Canada.	1802	1846. Living in Dixon.
" Daniel W.	Canada.	1802	1846. Living in South Dixon.
" V. R.	Canada.	1802	1846. Living in Dixon.
" Frederick.	New York.	1816	1836. Living in South Dixon.
" James.	New York.	1801	June of 1837.
" Henry B.	New York.	1801	July 4, 1840.
Morehouse, Nathan.	New York.	1800	Sept. 29, 1838.
" T. C.	New York.	1828	do
Madd.	"	1836	do
Morrill, N. G. H.	New Hamp.	1808	1838. Living in Dixon.
" Jacob.	New Hamp.	1818	1838. Living in New Hampshire.
McCleary, A.	Ohio.	1808	1837. dead.
McCahee, Thomas.	Ohio.	1808	1837. Living in California.
" Moses.	"	1808	"
Moon, Abner D.	Maine.	1807	1837. Living in 1877.
Murphy, Jeremiah.	Kentucky.	1812	1840. Died in New York.
Murphy, A. T.	Ireland.	1807	1840. Died June 17, 1861.
McClure, Samuel.	Ireland.	1807	1840. Living in Stark county, Illinois.
" Thomas.	Ireland.	1798	1840. Died in Iowa.
McMurtin, Courtland.	Pennsylvania.	1810	1840. dead.
Millard, William.	New York.	1810	1839. Living in Boone county.
March, Thomas.	New York.	1811	1839. Died in Mexico in 1850.
Head, Heman.	New York.	1811	1844. Moved to California in 1874.
" Hiram S.	New York.	1811	1844. died January 27, 1877.
" Alonzo W.	New York.	1811	1844. Living in Dixon.
James.	New York.	1811	1846. do
Morse, John.	Ohio.	1831	1846. Went to California.
Murray, Robt.	"	1837	1846. dead.
Joseph.	"	1840	1840. do
Montello, John.	Ireland.	1810	1836. do
Means, John.	Ireland.	1772	1843. do
" Isaac.	Ireland.	1814	1840. Died March 26, 1867.
" James.	Ireland.	1823	1847. Living in Dixon.
" Robert.	Iowa.	1841	1845. Living in Kansas.
Morgan, Isaac.	Ohio.	1798	1841. Living in Dixon.
" Joshua.	Ohio.	1798	April 12, 1834.
" John.	Ohio.	1806	1839. dead.
" Harvey.	Ohio.	1810	1840. died in Iowa.
Monk, Thomas.	England.	1797	1841. Died August 16, 1880.
Miller, Henry.	Germany.	1807	1841. Died at Sterling in 1877.
Miller, John L.	Germany.	1807	1841. Died in 1878.
Martin, George A.	New Hamp.	1806	1842. Returned to Kentucky.
Martin, William.	New Hamp.	1806	1839. do
" Charles F.	New Hamp.	1829	1836. Living in Palmyra.
" James F.	New Hamp.	1804	1839. do
" Jacob.	New Hamp.	1808	1831. Sec'd in Walnut Grove in '34. Living in Palmyra.
" Tyler.	New Hamp.	1823	1836. Living in Palmyra.
Mason, Joseph.	Vermont.	1796	1841. do
" A. J.	Vermont.	1822	1841. Father of J. M. Mason. Died in Aug 1846.
" E. R.	Vermont.	1814	1840. Died at Lake City, Minn., October 1, 1874.
Mason, William V.	New York.	1810	1839. Living in Louisiana.

NAME.	NATIVE STATE OR COUNTRY.	DATE OF SETTLEMENT.	REMARKS.
Mosler, Augustus, Son	Germany	1837	Living in Palmyra.
" Theodor	Germany	1831	Living in Dixon.
Myers, William	Pennsylvania	1813	Living in Palmyra.
McFar, Edward	Ireland	1843	dead.
Moore, John	England	1791	Died in 1854.
John H.	England	1835	Living in Dixon.
Moore, Hugh	New Hamp.	1830	dead.
" Rufus	New Hamp.	1836	dead.
Moore, James	New Hamp.	1835	dead.
Moore, Joseph	New York	1840	dead.
" John	New York	1840	Living in Iowa.
" James	New York	1840	Living in Iowa.
" Timothy	New York	1840	Living in Dakota.
" Joseph	New York	1840	Living in California.
McComsey, L. D.	Massachusetts	1815	Dead.
Messer, Gilbert	New Hamp.	1817	Living in Iowa.
McNeal, Thomas	Ireland	1803	Living in Iowa.
Manners, John	England	1813	Living in Iowa.
Monsbach, John	Ireland	1829	dead.
Moyer, John	Pennsylvania	1797	Living in Dixon Township.
Miller, George W.	Maryland	1837	dead.
Mowrey, Philip	Pennsylvania	1810	Died in Iowa, Augst, 1875.
McVey, James	Ireland	1830	Living in Dixon.
Schmullish, John	Germany	1838	Moved to Stephenson county, Ill. Dead.
Noble, Silas	Massachusetts	1838	1841 dead.
Newman, John	Kentucky	1839	dead.
" Richard	Kentucky	1839	Living in Dixon.
Nettleton, Benjamin	Ireland	1845	Dead.
Nash, J. B.	New York	1838	Moved to Paw Paw. Dead.
Norris, John B.	New Hamp.	1838	Died near Pike's Peak, Colorado, in 1864.
O'Neal, John	Ireland	1830	Died in Whiteside county.
O'Brien, Daniel	Ireland	1819	Died in 1873.
Orbit, Abram	Ireland	1837	Died in Palmyra in 1850.
O'Kane, John	Ireland	1838	Drowned in Elkhorn Creek in 1835.
Oliver, J. C.	Pennsylvania	1837	dead.
Page, John H.	New Hamp.	1807	Living in Sterling.
Page, Thomas	England	1819	Fall of 1834. Died in Iowa.
Pago, Henry	Germany	1839	dead.
Parks, Hiram	New York	1809	Living in Palmyra.
Parker, Solomon	Pennsylvania	1840	dead.
Patterson, David	New York	1838	dead.
Pattick, Shepard G.	Pennsylvania	1815	Died in October 1877.
Peacock, George	Ohio	1790	Died January 22, 1871.
" William	do	1817	Living near Dixon.
Pickle, Nicholas	Ohio	1823	Living in Polo.
Pinnum, Thomas	Ohio	1845	Living in California.
" John	Ohio	1837	Moved to Iowa.
" Caleb	Ohio	1837	Moved to Iowa.
Porter Aaron L.	New York	1818	dead.
" James	New York	1814	Died at Harmon July 15, 1880.
" Jerome	New York	1840	Living in California.
" N. F.	New York	1829	1840 dead.
Powers, Joseph	Massachusetts	1786	dead.
" Adolph	Massachusetts	1811	Living in Palmyra.
Power, James	Kentucky	1791	Died in Missouri.
" Thomas	Kentucky	1819	Living in Missouri.
Pratt, Julia	Pennsylvania	Summer 1835	Died in Sterling.
Pratt, Marshall	Pennsylvania	1838	dead.
Preston, Horace	New Hamp.	1810	Living in Dixon.
Purinton, George	Maine	1839	Living in Freeport.
Palmer, George B.	New York	1827	Living in Dixon.
Robinson, John K.	Ohio	1843	Living in Mendota.
Robinson, Alexander	Scotland	1813	Living in Dixon.
Rainbow, Ward	England	1838	dead.
Richards, John	England	1793	Living in Iowa.
" James	Canada	1825	Died June 1, 1854.
" William	Massachusetts	1836	Living in Moline.
Richardson, Hartin	Kentucky	1800	Living in Sterling.
" Orrin	Massachusetts	1835	dead.
Richardson, John H.	Massachusetts	1810	1849. Went to Colorado.
Roe, Jacob	Ireland	1838	dead.
Rosebrook, Lyman	New Hamp.	1817	Fall of 1836. Went to Colorado.
Rock, John	Ireland	1848	dead.
Rogers, Walter	Ireland	1839	Living in Palmyra.
Rucker, Milton	Kentucky	1817	Living in Iowa.

NAME.	NATIVE STATE OR COUNTRY.	DATE OF SETTLEMENT.	REMARKS.
Stevens, William	Pennsylvania	1840	Living in Dixon.
Stevens, David C.	Pennsylvania	1838	Went to California.
Shelhamer, Solomon	Pennsylvania	1798	Died in April 1870.
Schoel, Orin	Pennsylvania	1843	dead.
Seward, William	Pennsylvania	1838	dead.
Shethack, Edward	New York	1812	Died in Amboy.
Saugst, Robert	Pennsylvania	1839	dead.
Sanice, James M.	Pennsylvania	1839	Died in December, 1873.
Samuel	Pennsylvania	1838	Died in Pennsylvania.
Smith, Barclay	Pennsylvania	1808	Died April 20, 1845.
Smith, Lockwood	Pennsylvania	1830	Died in 1850.
Smith, Alanson	New York	1811	Living in Mendota.
Silber, H. J.	Pennsylvania	1820	Living in Dixon.
" Samuel	Pennsylvania	1841	Living in Mendota.
Stewart, Benjamin H.	New York	1840	Living in Dakota, Oregon.
Sterling, James	Pennsylvania	1825	Died in Missouri.
" Edward	Pennsylvania	1837	Brought family here in '47. Died Nov. 1880.
Seavey, Joshua	New Hamp.	1787	Living in Dixon.
" Jesse	New Hamp.	1811	dead.
Sartoris, Henry G.	New Hamp.	1842	Died about 1865.
" Gustavus	Germany	1822	1838. Living in Palmyra.
Scallion, Thomas	Ireland	1833	dead.
" Moses	Ireland	1821	1839. dead.
Stackpole, William	Maine	1822	1850. Died in 1863.
Schick, Mathias	Germany	1842	Living in Palmyra.
Sweeney, Tristram	do	1842	dead.
" Lemuel	do	1849	dead.
Seaman, Willet	do	1843	Living in New York.
Strong, Henry K.	New York	1828	1845. Living in Dixon.
Simonson, A. H.	do	1837	dead.
Scheer, George	Germany	1708	1848. dead.
" Adam	Germany	1835	1843. dead.
" John	Germany	1845	1845. Drowned in Rock River in 1845.
Sampson, George	New York	1830	1848. Came to Sterling in '39. Living in Dixon.
Stall, George	New York	1830	1850. Living in Dixon.
Shaw, Jed	New York	1830	1839. Died about 1845.
Thompson, Horace	New York	1837	Living at Elkhorn Grove.
" John	New York	1837	dead.
" James	New York	1837	dead.
Tallmadge, Caleb	Massachusetts	1708	1837. Died February 19, 1858.
Thiriot, Nelson	Canada	1840	Went to California.
" Joseph	Canada	1825	1840. dead.
Truet, Henry B.	Germany	1755	1837. Died in June, 1876.
Thunmel, Anthony	Germany	1755	1836. Living in Palmyra.
" C. B.	Germany	1802	1843. do do
" Anson	Germany	1843	1843. do do
Thunmel, William G.	Germany	1837	1849. dead.
Thomas, Enoch	Ohio	1835	1835. dead.
" Noah	Ohio	1813	1835. dead.
Ulen, Henry	Germany	1830	1848. Died about 1870.
Van Arman, John	Canada	1827	1830. dead.
Vineen, James	Canada	1827	1848. Living in Marion township.
Vineen, William	Indiana	1819	1848. Died in 1881.
" Richard F.	Indiana	1822	1848. Moved to Iowa in 1852.
Vredenburg, Henry	Germany	1797	1830. dead.
Weizlar, Gustavus	Germany	1811	1888. Went to California.
Wetly, David	New York	1811	Spring of 1838. Living in Dixon.
Wakale, Aaron	Massachusetts	1786	1838. dead.
Williams, Cyrus	Massachusetts	1767	1827. Died August 2, 1866.
Webb, Henry	New York	1830	1838. dead.
Wilkinson, William	New York	1824	1835. Dead. Son of Judge Wilkinson, one of the
Wynneop, Legrand	Connecticut	1810	1848. Living in Nebraska. [proprietors of town,
Woodard, Richard	England	1815	1840. Father of W H Woodard. Died April 1, 1859.
Wheeler, Orazas	Vermont	1812	1840. dead.
White, David	Scotland	1798	140. dead.
Wood, Lorenzo	Vermont	1818	1842. Living in Dixon.
" Horatio	do	1819	1844. Died September 27, 1848.
Warner, Moses	Massachusetts	1838	1838. Living in Sterling.
" Henry	Massachusetts	1838	1838. Living in Dixon.
Wheat, S. E.	do	1845	1845. dead.
Wertman, John C.	Pennsylvania	1824	1864. Died in 1864.
Wallace, William	New York	1791	1849. dead.
Whitney, Amos	New Hamp.	1809	1846. Living in Dixon.
Whitmore, S. H.	New York	1838	May 5, 73 from injuries rec'd at bridge
Young, John	New York	1839	Living in New York City. [accident]
Blackman, E. B.	Pennsylvania	1830	1845. Died September 8, 1859.









Name and Rank	Date of Muster	Remarks.
Fitzgerald, John.....	Dec. 1, 1861.	Re-enlisted as Veteran. Died at Dixon, Ills. January 7, 1865.
Gorman, John.....	.....do.....	Re-enlisted as Vet. Abs't without leave, since Dec. 19, 1865.
Perry, George H.....	.....do.....	Discharged November 23, 1862; disability.
Tracy, James.....	.....do.....	Discharged October 16, 1862; disability.
<i>Recruits.</i>		
Collins, Dennis.....	Jan. 4, 1863.	Mustered on January 30, 1865.
Dolan, James.....	.....do.....	Discharged January 10, 1864, for promotion to 4th U. S.
Murphy, Murthy.....	.....do.....	Mustered on January 23, 1864.
McBride, Thomas.....	.....do.....	Died at Saurbrigh Springs, Louisiana, July 21, 1865.
<i>Second Lieutenant</i>		
Hezckiah, Bullock.....	April 7, 1862.	Promoted 1st Lieut., Nov. 19, '62; M. O. Jan. 20, '66 as Capt.
<i>Recruits.</i>		
Lawton, James E.....	Dec. 1, 1861.	Mustered on November 30, 1864.
Pratt, Newell.....	.....do.....	" " " " " "
Snyder, Edward.....	.....do.....	Transferred to company II.
McCain, Wilford.....	Feb. 16, 1864.	Mustered on January 20, 1866.

## SIXTY-NINTH INFANTRY REGIMENT.

Company "H," of the Sixty-ninth Illinois Volunteers was organized at Dixon, June 10, 1862, and mustered in for three months service, June 14. The officers and men from Dixon were as follows:

James W. Hendon, Captain.	Burr, A. D.
Edw. B. Baker, First Lieutenant.	Black, William
Edwin F. Bennett, Second Lieutenant.	Denah, James
John D. Henton, First Sergeant.	Heeren, Henry
L. Michael Keyes, Sergeant.	Hatch, James
Edward Perkins, " "	Bliss, Edwin W.
Gerrmann Knepker, Corporal.	Key's, Julius
John Little, Corporal.	McCrister, Charles
Leon Moore, " "	McNerney, Patrick
Crinth Stroup, " "	Morgan, Charles
Jerome Martin, " "	Mussey, Daniel
Joseph Ledger, " "	Outley, Stephen

A. Dana Casto, Musician.  
Wakfield Ayres, " "

*Privates.*

Pueal, Barton	Pankhurst, James
Smith, Owen	Smith, Owen
Smith, Alanson	Smith, Alanson
Spafford, Mark A.	Tyler, James
Vanderburgh, Herbert	Vanderburgh, Herbert
Vroomder, Solomon A.	Yales, Charles

## SEVENTY-FIFTH INFANTRY REGIMENT.

The Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteers was organized at Dixon, Illinois, on the 24 day of September, 1862, by Colonel George Ryan.

Ordered to Louisville, Kentucky, September 27. Was Brigaded with Thirtieth Brigade, Colonel Post; Ninth Division, General Mitchell, of Buell's army.

October 1st, marched in pursuit of Bragg. October 8, engaged in the battle of Chattanooga, Illinois, losing 47 killed, 166 wounded, and 12 prisoners. Marched to Crand Orchard, Colonel Woolfork

assuming command of the Division. Returned via Lebanon and Bowling Green, to Nashville. General J. C. Davis taking command of the Division. Engaged four miles from Nashville, on the Lebanon Pike, November 7, 1862.

Since which time no historical memorandum is given in the Adjutant General's reports. Mustered on June 12, 1863, at Camp Harker, Tennessee, and arrived at Chicago, June 15, 1863, where the regiment received final payment and discharge.

Name and Rank	Date of Muster	Remarks.
<i>Adjutant</i>		
Jerome Hollenbeck.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	Resigned December 19, 1862.
<i>Quartermaster</i>		
John E. Remington.....	.....do.....	Resigned for promotion, November 24, 1863.
<i>Surgeon.</i>		
George Phillips.....	Sept. 18, 1862	Resigned May 10, 1863
<i>Captain.</i>		
James A. Warren.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	Promoted Major. Mustered on June 14, 1865.
<i>First Lieutenant.</i>		
Ezekiel Giles.....	.....do.....	Promoted Captain. Resigned May 23, 1863.
William Purker, Jr.....	.....do.....	Promoted 1st Lieut. Pro. Capt. May 23, '63. M. O. June 12, '65
<i>First Sergeant</i>		
Frederick A. Headley.....	.....do.....	Pro. 2nd Lieut. Pro. 1st Lieut. Honorably disch. May 15, 1865
<i>Sergeants.</i>		
Alfred K. Buckaloo.....	.....do.....	Promoted Second Lieutenant. Died March 24, 1864.
Horace Judson.....	.....do.....	Resigned. Mustered on June 12, 1865.
William J. Cogswell.....	.....do.....	Discharged March 8, 1863; disability.
Joseph A. Hill.....	.....do.....	Discharged May 28, 1863; disability.
<i>Corporal.</i>		
John William.....	.....do.....	Died at Richmond, Va., Jan. 3, 1864, while a prisoner of war.
Louis H. Barker.....	.....do.....	Promoted Sergeant Major.

Name and Rank	Date of Muster	Remarks.
Edward J. James.....	Sept. 18, 1862	Deserted October 3, 1862.
Isaac E. Barr.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
James M. Putnam.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " as First Sergeant.
Ezra Cooper.....	.....do.....	Sergeant. Died January 12, 1863.
David H. Wagner.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865, as Sergeant.
Anthony Zimmer.....	.....do.....	Reduced. Absent, sick, at Muster on of Regiment.
<i>Privates.</i>		
James L. Backus.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
David Freeman.....	.....do.....	Discharged May 28, 1863; disability.
<i>Privates.</i>		
Allen, Samuel.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Beal, John, Jr.....	.....do.....	Transferred to Mississippi Marine Brig. January 20, 1863.
Bingham, James.....	.....do.....	Discharged April 7, 1863; disability.
Cornwall, Joseph.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Catavagh, John.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Clark, Fred.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865, as Corporal.
Clark, John.....	.....do.....	Discharged October 28, 1862; disability.
Cookson, John.....	.....do.....	Died at Chattanooga, June 28, 1864, from wounds.
Collins, Adonivan.....	.....do.....	Disch. for promotion to 1st Lieut. 15th Cal. Inf., Dec. 30, 1863.
Crego, M. E.....	.....do.....	Discharged February 14, 1863; disability.
Cromwell, Joseph.....	.....do.....	Deserted October 3, 1862.
Crosey, Charles.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
DeFraln, Chas.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " as Corporal.
Done, Alexander.....	.....do.....	Died at Andersonville prison, September 28, 1864.
Everts, Alonzo.....	.....do.....	Transferred to U. S. Engineers, June 27, 1864.
Faust, William.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
French, Orlando.....	.....do.....	Promoted Quartermaster Sergeant.
Ford, Frank.....	.....do.....	Died at Perryville, Ky., October 30, 1862, of wounds.
Gardner, William.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Grimes, Hiram.....	.....do.....	Discharged February 3, 1864; disability.
Hart, Charles.....	.....do.....	Mustered on May 18, 1865, as Corporal.
Holliman, John.....	.....do.....	Discharged January 24, 1863; disability.
Hoyle, Edmund.....	.....do.....	Transferred to Invalid Corps, September 1, 1865.
Howland, Warren.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865, as Sergeant.
Kahn, Philip.....	.....do.....	Discharged for disability.
Knight, Thomas.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Lindsey, John.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
Linehan, John.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
Lovan, Mathias.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
McDonald, Michael.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
McIntyre, George.....	.....do.....	Died at Louisville, June 28, 1865.
Maloy, David.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 18, 1864.
Moore, John J.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
Morrell, Charles.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
Morrell, Charles.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
Mosteller, Charles.....	.....do.....	Died at Louisville, November 18, 1863.
Mosley, William.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865, as Corporal.
Moss, Abraham.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
Messer, George.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
Onks, Proctor.....	.....do.....	Deserted October 3, 1862.
Orlando, Robert.....	.....do.....	Reduced. M. O. May 23, 1865.
Peacock, William.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Parlough, Gideon.....	.....do.....	" " " " " " " "
Pinkerton, Enoch.....	.....do.....	Discharged February 18, 1865; disability.
Richards, John R.....	.....do.....	Died at Whitesides, Tenn., December 17, 1863.
Rosenbaum, Alex.....	.....do.....	Died at Murfreesboro, Tenn., May 22, 1865.
Remington, Alonzo.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Reed, James.....	.....do.....	Disch. Aug. 15, 1864, for promotion to 1st Lieut. and R. Q. M.
Roberts, Thomas.....	.....do.....	Discharged March 8, 1864; disability.
Rose, Lawrence.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Stewart, William.....	.....do.....	Died at Evansville, Ind., December 30, 1863.
Schmucker, Cyrus.....	.....do.....	Discharged December 2, 1864; disability.
Stackpole, William.....	.....do.....	Died at Louisville, Ky., December 30, 1862.
Vredenburgh, Wm.....	.....do.....	Deserted October 3, 1862.
Watson, Joseph.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Wood, Thomas.....	.....do.....	Discharged May 9, 1865; wounds.
Wilhelm, Stephen.....	.....do.....	Died at Lebanon, Ky., February 28, 1863.
Yarrow, James.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Morrell, Emory R.....	March 13, '65.	Trans. as Prov. Guard, Headquarters 4th A. C. June 7, 1865.
<i>COMPANY "F."</i>		
Jordan, James.....	Sept 2, 1862.	Corporal.
Polley, Patrick.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Ryan, John.....	.....do.....	Discharged May 30, 1865.
Stewart, Samuel.....	.....do.....	Died at Perryville, Ky., October 11, 1862, of wounds.
Worick, Ernest.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865, as Corporal.
Wink, John.....	.....do.....	Discharged November 4, 1862.
<i>COMPANY "G."</i>		
Mason, Elbert.....	.....do.....	Mustered on June 12, 1865.

## DIXON VOLUNTEERS.

## COMPANY "H."

Name and Rank	Date of Muster.	Remarks.
<i>Privates.</i>		
Boyer, Gideon.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Brown, Newton.....	do.....	Deserted October 4, 1862.
Crawford, Joseph B.....	do.....	Discharged February 12, 1863; wounds.
Chappell, Richard.....	do.....	Discharged January 4, 1863; wounds.
Gruber, Joseph.....	do.....	Transferred to Invalid Corps, May 3, 1865.
Ford, Frank.....	do.....	Corporal. Died October 30, 1862; wounds.

## ONE HUNDRED AND FORTIETH INFANTRY REGIMENT.

The One Hundred and Fortieth Infantry Illinois Volunteers, were in camp at Dixon, about the 1st of May, 1864. The 16th of June the regiment was ordered to Springfield where they were immediately sworn into the service (100 days) and ordered to Paducah, Kentucky. The regiment was mustered on the 29th of Oct., 1864. The officers and men enlisting from Dixon were as follows:

Lorenzo H. Whitney, Colonel.	George Bishop, Quartermaster.
George W. Phillips, Surgeon.	
<i>COMPANY "D."</i>	
Castleman, Levi.....	Patrick, Goodwin
Holt, Homer.....	Rasmus, Augustus
Hartfield, William.....	Spickerman, Andrew
Mun, Charles.....	Wall, Zina
Moeller, Herman.....	Wheeler, James
<i>COMPANY "E."</i>	
Ezekiel Gilts, Captain.	
Joseph Ball, First Lieutenant.	

William J. McVoy, Sergeant.  
Edwin Perkins, " "  
George C. Ball, " "  
Henry C. Giles, Corporal.  
Joseph Scitry, " "  
Henry McCullough, Musician.  
Thomas J. Watson, Wagoner.

*Privates.*

Bates, Josiah.....	Hanson, Charles
Becker, Charles.....	Hill, Horace E.
Birk, John S.....	Hollahan, John
Burr, Charles C.....	Knutner, Anderson
Chiverton, Charles.....	Lewis, Thomas
Donay, ".....	Metrach, John
Dorcy, Robert.....	Porter, John
Dirt, Martin.....	Shay, Jacob
Duffy, James.....	Shew, John P.
Fellows, Charles.....	Smith, Samuel T.
Glogan, James.....	Smith, Nathan G.
Gayetty, Thomas.....	Woolley, Thomas

## "CHENEY'S BATTERY," FIRST ILLINOIS ARTILLERY.

Battery F, First Illinois Light Artillery, was recruited at Dixon, Illinois, in January 1862, by Captain John T. Cheney, and was mustered in at Springfield, February 23d.

Moved to Benton Barracks, Missouri, March 15, 1862, and on expedition, returning to Tallahassee, Florida, April 9th, and was assigned to Major General Lee Wallace's Third Division, Army of the Tennessee.

Was engaged in the siege of Corinth, and June 9th, marched for Memphis, arriving on the 18th. On the 29th, moved from Memphis, and arrived at the Tallahassee river, December 2d. On the 11th in Denver's Division, went on the York fourth pound guns, April 1st, and was engaged on expedition, returning to Tallahassee river, and finally to Holly Springs, Mississippi, March 7th, 1863. Battery F was consolidated with other batteries of the regiment.

Name and Rank	Date of Muster.	Remarks.
<i>Captain</i>		
John T. Cheney.....	Feb. 23, 1862.	Promoted Major, Feb. 13, 1864. Resigned August 25, 1864.
<i>First Lieutenant</i>		
Josiah H. Barton.....	do.....	Promoted Captain, Feb. 13, 1864. Term expired March 7, '65.
<i>Sergeants.</i>		
Theodore W. Lamb.....	do.....	Pro. 1st Serg't then 2d Lieut. Killed in battle July 22, 1864.
Edward O'Brien.....	do.....	Died at Marietta, Ga., September 8, 1864; wounds.
James W. Vesper.....	do.....	Discharged January 4, 1864, (1863?) term expired.
J. Q. Yates.....	do.....	Recallisted as Vet. M. O. April 11, '65, Serg't; supernu.
<i>Privates.</i>		
Bennett, P. W.....	do.....	Discharged January 4, 1865; term expired.
Chappell, Henry.....	do.....	Discharged for disability. Recallisted Dec. 6, 1863.
Carey, Benjamin.....	do.....	Discharged January 4, 1865; term expired.
Gunkelson, Ole.....	do.....	Transferred to V. & G.
Horu, Henry.....	do.....	Discharged January 4, 1865, as Baglar; term expired.
Haynes, John.....	do.....	Discharged January 4, 1865; term expired.
Kennedy, Charles.....	do.....	Veteran. Discharged at Atlanta, Ga., July 21, 1864.
Kearns, Michael.....	do.....	Discharged January 4, 1865 term expired.
Leach, L. L.....	do.....	Discharged in 1862; disability.
Levanthal, Jerome.....	do.....	Recallisted as Veteran. Transferred to Company B.
Lytle, John.....	do.....	Mustered on March 7, 1863.
Liden, James.....	do.....	Discharged January 1, 1863.
Kohrer, Amos.....	do.....	Re-listed as Veteran. M. O. April 11, 1865, as Corporal.
Richardson, William.....	do.....	do.....
Tompson, N. H.....	do.....	Corporal. Died at Mound City, Ill., August 24, 1862.

## DIXON VOLUNTEERS.

Name and Rank.	Date of Muster.	Remarks.
Taylor, James.....	Feb. 23, 1862.	Discharged January 4, 1865.
Waite, E. A.....	do.....	Discharged October 31, 1862, as Artificer; disability.
Wagner, Addison.....	do.....	Discharged January 4, 1863; term expired.
<i>Recruits.</i>		
Ayres, Henry W.....	Dec. 28, 1862.	Transferred to Company I. Mustered on July 26, 1865.
Burke, Calvin.....	Aug. 11, 1861.	Discharged.
Ball, James.....	Aug. 14, 1862.	Disch. June 9, 1863, for pro. in Co. B. 1st Tenn., Heavy Art.
Bresie, Daniel.....	Aug. 27.....	Transferred to Company A.
Brierion, Henry.....	Aug. 14.....	Transferred to Company B. Mustered on July 1, 1865.
Burr, Benjamin.....	Aug. 14.....	Transferred to Company A. Mustered on July 10, 1865.
Burr, Elwood.....	Sept. 15.....	do.....
Bradway, Sylvanus.....	Jan. 4, 1864.	Transferred to Co. E. Absent, sick, at M. O. of company.
Boardman, John D.....	do.....	Transferred to company I. Mustered on July 26, 1865.
Babbitt, Franklin A. D.....	Jan. 4, 1864.	Transferred to company B. Mustered on July 6, 1865.
Cartis, Charles.....	Aug. 14, 1862.	Discharged February 16, 1862; disability.
Deys, Laureston.....	Jan. 4, 1864.	Transferred to company B. Mustered on July 6, 1865.
Edgoh, E. B.....	Aug. 14, 1862.	Discharged December 31, 1862, as Corporal; disability.
Elwert, William.....	Aug. 22.....	Deserted October 11, 1862.
Ferguson, Isaac.....	Jan. 4, 1864.	Transferred to company B. Mustered on July 6, 1865.
Farrell, George.....	do.....	do.....
Goodwin, George.....	Aug. 14, 1864.	Transferred to company A.
Gage, Alonzo.....	Dec. 28, 1862.	Transferred to company I. Mustered on July 26, 1865.
Graf, Henry.....	Sept. 27, 1862.	do.....
Hollister, Justin.....	Aug. 20, 1862.	Transferred to company A. Mustered on July 10, 1865.
Hughes, John.....	Aug. 20.....	do.....
Heller, Hiram.....	Aug. 14.....	do.....
Kaiser, Edwin.....	Dec. 22, 1863.	Transferred to company B. Mustered on July 6, 1865.
Lawless, Andrew.....	Aug. 15, 1862.	Transferred to company E. Mustered on July 15, 1865.
Leaveland, W. O.....	Jan. 5, 1865.	Transferred to company G.
Litt, Thomas.....	Aug. 14, 1862.	Transferred to company A. Mustered on July 10, 1865.
Low, Charles.....	do.....	Transferred to company A. Mustered on June 10, 1865.
Lowland, George.....	Dec. 22, 1863.	Transferred to company E.
Lowes, Joseph.....	Aug. 15, 1864.	Died at Memphis, February 3, 1863.
Motteler, Jeremiah.....	Aug. 20.....	Transferred to company A. Mustered on July 10, 1865.
Moon, Clark W.....	Sept. 6.....	do.....
Penock, Henry.....	Jan. 4.....	Mustered on April 11, 1865, as Corporal.
Patrick, Shepard G.....	Jan. 4, 1864.	Transferred to company E. Mustered on July 15, 1865.
Snyder, William.....	Aug. 14, 1862.	Sergeant. Disch. July 25, 1864, for pro. in 49th U. S. U. T.
Snell, John.....	do.....	Transferred to company A.
Scheer, Adam.....	do.....	Mustered on July 10, 1865.
Sauter, Emory.....	Dec. 16, 1863.	Mustered on July 6, 1865.
Shollers, Edward.....	Aug. 15, 1862.	Mustered on June 12, 1865.
Stewart, William.....	Dec. 28, 1863.	Died at Stephenson, Ala., February 18, 1865.
Turner, Alexander.....	Jan. 18, 1865.	Mustered on July 15, 1865.
Wood, William T.....	Jan. 4, 1864.	Transferred to company B.
Wade, Thomas.....	Jan. 21.....	Mustered on July 15, 1865.

*Other Companies of 1st Artillery.*

Shoemaker, Henry..... Mustered at muster out of Regiment.

Beal, Noah.....	Dec. 1, 1862.	Mustered on July 1863.
Barr, A. D.....	Nov. 1.....	Mustered on June 7, 1865.
Bull, George.....	Dec. 16.....	Discharged June 18, 1865.
Clapp, Benjamin.....	Nov. 1.....	Mustered on June 30, 1865.
Powers, Henry.....	Nov. 1.....	Mustered on September 16, 1863.
Sopley, Samuel.....	Dec. 1.....	do.....
Tracy, George.....	Dec. 1.....	Mustered on July 25, 1863.
Wood, Joshua.....	Dec. 1.....	do.....

## MISCELLANEOUS REGIMENTS.

Name.	Date of muster.	Company and Regiment.	Remarks.
Arvin, Charles.....	do.....	Co. C 96th Inf. Regiment	Mustered on July 7, 1865.
Anderson, Jerome.....	Feb. 16, 1865.	do C 137th do	do Jan. 30, '61; Corp.
Burr, Charles.....	March 1, 1863.	do C 12th do	do do September 16, 1865
Brookfield, Albert.....	Aug. 1, 1861.	do A 3rd do	Died at Ironton, Mo., Dec. 25, '61
Bry, B. P.....	Aug. 1, 1861.	do A 2d Cav.	Died March 27, 1862.
Burr, John.....	Sept. 15, 1861.	do C 8th do	Vet. Mustered on July 17, 1865.
Both, Lyman.....	Jan. 31, 1864.	do I 12th do	Reenlist. Deserted Feb. 8, 1866
Burgett, James.....	Dec. 1.....	12th do	do.....
Briggs, Charles.....	Dec. 28, 1863.	12th do	Mustered on December 22, 1865.
Bryce, John.....	Nov. 2, 1863.	12th do	do.....
Bryce, James.....	Dec. 1, 1863.	do C 14th do	do July 31, 1863; Serg.
Bunnett, J. H. W.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	Burnside's Marine Art'y.	Disch. Newberne, N. C., Oct. '61
Bush, Jacob.....	do.....	do do	do do do
Bush, John.....	do.....	McClellan's Dragoons	Transferred to 13th Ill. cav., do
Cullison, Joseph.....	Sept. 3, 1862.	Co. B 12th Inf. Regiment	Discharged September 10, 1864.



Name.	Date of muster.	Company and Regiment.	Remarks.
Conner, William.....	Aug. 30, 1861.	Co. E 12th Infantry Reg't	Killed, Ft. Donelson, Feb. 15, '62
Frankington, Robert.....	do E 2nd do	Recruit. Trans. to 60th U. S. Inf.	Disch. April 29, 1865; disability.
Canaday, Francis.....	Dec. 9, 1863.	13th Cavalry Reg't	
Connors, John.....	March 15, 1863.	do do	
Carpenter, W. J.....	Jan. 7, 1863.	Co. C 14th do	Mustered out Dec. 30, '64; corp'l
Clark, Joseph.....	Jan. 7, 1863.	do do	died at Glasgow, Ky. July 12, '63.
Cuddington, Miner.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	Burnside's Marine Art'y.	Disch. Newberne, N. C. Oct. '64.
Cradell, A. B.....	Aug. 2, 1861.	Co. I 12th Cavalry Reg't	
Dow, Henry.....	Feb. 23, 1864.	do D 64th Infantry Reg't	Absent, sick, at m. o. of Reg't.
Dont, George.....	Aug. 2, 1861.	Co. A 2d Cavalry Reg't	discharged service, Feb. 5, '63
Dunn, Francis.....	March 15, 1863.	do G 7th do	Mustered out Nov. 4, 1865.
Dana, B.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	McClellan's Dragoons.....	Transferred to 12th U. S. Cav.
Ferguson, Albert.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	Burnside's Marine Art'y.	Transferred to 12th U. S. Cav.
Giles, Charles.....	March 7, 1863.	Co. D 13th Infantry Reg't	Mustered out Sept. 16, 1865.
Gifford, Calvin.....	Aug. 21, 1864.	do D 73d do	detached at muster out of Reg't.
Goddard, John.....	June 18, 1864.	do C 92d do	Transferred to 53d U. S. Inf.
Heren, Henry.....	March 15, '64.	do do	
Hammond, Edwin.....	Feb. 24, 1864.	Co. D 47th do	Pro. corp'l 1st Serg't 2d Lieut.
Harter, Charles.....	June 18, 1864.	do A 14th do	a. o. com. sergt., Oct. 23, 1864.
Hanson, Leander.....	Feb. 10, 1865.	do G 147th do	mustered out June 20, 1865.
Hart, William.....	Aug. 14, 1861.	do do do	
Hodgson, Charles.....	Dec. 31, 1863.	do A 3d Cavalry Reg't	disch. Aug. 11, 1864, as corp'l.
Hermans, Edmund.....	Dec. 31, 1863.	do K 7th do	disch. July 16, 1864, for promot'n
Harden, George.....	Feb. 23, 1864.	do 12th do	mustered out Nov. 23, 1864.
Heery, William.....	Feb. 23, 1864.	do B 8th Artillery Reg't	
Hollenbeck, Jerome.....	Aug. 12, 1861.	2d Cavalry Reg't	Quartermaster, m. o. June 1, '62
Hammill, James.....	March 15, '63.	do do	discharged Jan. 10, 1865.
Hart, John.....	Oct. 11, 1864.	do A 12th do	mustered out Sept. 11, 1865.
Holtzman, John.....	Jan. 11, 1864.	do 12th do	do Nov. 23, 1865.
Herrick, Edward.....	Oct. 11, 1864.	do do	
Hatch, Charles.....	Nov. 19, 1861.	Co. H 54th Infantry Reg't	do at close of war.
Jones, Andrew.....	Jan. 7, 1864.	do C 14th Cavalry Reg't	a. o. July 12, 1865; pris. of war.
Jones, W. C.....	Jan. 21, 1861.	McClellan's Dragoon.....	discharged Jan. 10, 1865.
Kinney, John M.....	Feb. 19, 1864.	Co. G 10th Infantry Reg't	mustered out July 4, 1864.
King, A.....	Feb. 7, 1862.	do H 28th do	deserted April 6, 1862.
Kershaw, R.....	June 19, 1862.	do F 152d do	mustered out Sept. 1, 1865.
Kerr, George A.....	Jan. 31, 1864.	12th Cavalry Reg't	
Kelly, J. M.....	1861.....	Post Quarter Master.....	m. o. summer of 1865.
Lathrop, Edward.....	Feb. 22, 1865.	do D 19th do	Asst. Surgeon, m. o. Nov. 27, '65
Lieb, Samuel.....	Feb. 22, 1865.	do C 19th do	died July 22, 1865; need'l w'd.
Levering, Eugene.....	Jan. 22, 1861.	McClellan's Dragoon.....	deserted March 14, 1865.
Laing, W. H.....	Aug. 12, 1864.	McClellan's Dragoon.....	Transferred to 12th Cavalry.
Layhey, D.....	Jan. 22, 1861.	do do	mustered out Aug. 16, 1865.
McMaster, James.....	Feb. 10, 1865.	Co. F 152d Infantry Reg't	Transferred to 12th Cavalry, 1862.
Moody, John.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	Burnside's Marine Art'y.	mustered out Sept. 11, 1865.
Motteler, Jeremiah.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	Transferred to Cheney's Battery.
McF. Neel, James.....	July 24, 1861.	do do	died at Fort Mifflin, Pa.
Noble, Silas.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	Colonel, m. o. Feb. 16, 1865.
Odds, Kingsley.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	mustered out July 12, 1865.
O'Connor, Thomas.....	Aug. 14, 1861.	do do	Transferred to Cheney's Battery.
Park, S. G.....	Jan. 7, 1863.	do do	Promoted 2d Lieutenant.
Peck, William.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	mustered out June 12, 1865.
Pugh, O. M.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	2d Lieut. m. o. Aug. 24, '62
Rees, John.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	died Washington, D. C., June '65
Rice, Harrison.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	mustered July 22, 1865.
Richardson, Henry.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	Pro. 1st Serg't.
Ried, Samuel.....	Jan. 7, 1863.	do do	mustered out July 19, 1865.
Richardson, John.....	Jan. 7, 1863.	do do	Pro. 1st Serg't.
Robinson, A.....	Aug. 2, 1861.	do do	Trans. to co. H 12th U. S. Inf.
Robinson, A.....	Aug. 2, 1861.	do do	mustered out July 12, 1865.
Shannon, Robert.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	Transferred to 12th Cavalry.
Sault, Levi.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	mustered out Sept. 11, 1865.
Shaw, William.....	Feb. 24, 1861.	do do	disch. Aug. 11, 1865; term exp'd
Sheldon, Marlin.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	do do	mustered out Oct. 10, 1864.
Stevens, John.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	do do	do do
Stiles, Abraham.....	March 7, 1863.	do do	do do
Smith, Owen.....	March 15, '63.	do do	do do
Spafford, Joseph.....	Dec. 18, 1863.	do do	do do
Saylor, William.....	Dec. 18, 1863.	do do	do do
St. Clair, George.....	Jan. 7, 1863.	do do	do do
Siebs, John.....	Jan. 7, 1863.	do do	do do
Steedman, Homer.....	Jan. 21, 1863.	do do	do do
Spengler, Charles.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	do do	do do
Spence, W. H.....	" do	do do	do do
Schell, Peter.....	" do	do do	do do
Schect, Christian.....	" do	do do	do do
Shoemaker, J. M.....	" do	do do	do do
Stevens, Hiram.....	1862.....	do do	do do
Taylor, Jonathan.....	Sept. 2, 1861.	do do	do do
Thompson, Wm. P.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	do do	do do
Ulrich, Henry.....	Feb. 24, 1864.	do do	do do

Name.	Date of Muster.	Company and Regiment.	Remarks.
Uhl, Jonathan.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	Burnside's Marine Art'y.	Disch. Newberne, N. C. Oct. '64
Valente, William.....	Aug. 10, 1865.	Co. F 13th Infantry Reg't	Mustered out May 22, 1865
Van Gilsen, Albert.....	Dec. 14, 1865.	Co. A 14th Infantry Reg't	Pro. 1st Lieut. M. O. Jan. 27, '66
Van Epps, William.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	Burnside's Marine Art'y.	Disch. Newberne, N. C. Oct. '64.
Vredenburgh, W. H.....	Aug. 2, 1861.	McClellan's Dragoon.....	Discharged for disability.
Wilson, Ephraim.....	Sept. 7, 1863.	Co. G 10th Infantry Reg't	Promoted 3d Lieutenant
Williams, Charles.....	do do do	do do do	Mustered out Sept. 12, 1864.
Warner, Edward.....	Jan. 21, 1862.	do do do	Discharged June 29, 1862
Weston, Charles.....	do do do	do do do	Serg. Maj. Pro. 2d Lieut. Co. K
Waters, Conrad.....	do do do	do do do	Mustered out Jan. 20, 1866.
Wade, William.....	Dec. 4, 1863.	do do do	do do do
White, Charles.....	Dec. 28, 18 '63.	do do do	Mustered out Oct. 4, '65; Serg't.
Woolsey, John.....	Feb. 20th U. S. Col. 1st.	do do do	Transferred to 17th U. S. Inf.
Whegan, Isaac.....	Feb. 16, 1865.	do do do	Sergeant. M. O. Nov. 4, 1865.
Young, William.....	Sept. 15, 1861.	do do do	Died at Washington, July 17, '65.

## PALMYRA'S VOLUNTEERS.

NOTE.—A number of Volunteers from Palmyra were reported as from Dixon, consequently their names occur in the Dixon List.

Name.	Date of Muster.	Company and Regiment.	Remarks.
Albers, John.....	Sept. 7, 1861.	Co. D 34th Infantry Reg't	Mustered out July 14, 1865.
Baugh, Robert.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	Co. A 35th do	Serg. Maj. Pro. June 1865
Beede, Alfred.....	Nov. 10, 1864.	do do do	Trans. to Pro. Guard, Head'qs 4th A. C. June 12, 1865.
Black, William.....	Jan. 4, 1864.	do do do	
Blanch, John.....	Feb. 24, 1864.	F 1st Artillery Reg't	Mustered out June 12, 1865.
Coffey, Thomas.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	do do do	do do do
Conway, George.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	do do do	do do do
Conway, Franklin.....	Dec. 14, 1863.	F 1st Artillery.....	do do do
Clink, Homer.....	Dec. 19, 1863.	do do do	Died at Rome, Ga., Oct. '64.
Deary, William.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	Co. I 13th Infantry Reg't	Discharged for Promot'n.
Deek, Josiah.....	Sept. 7, 1865.	do do do	Mustered out Oct. 29, 1864.
Dryman, Robert.....	June 18, 1864.	do do do	do do do
Deek, John.....	Feb. 23, 1865.	F 1st Artillery.....	do do do
Eckles, Charles.....	Sept. 7, 1865.	Co. D 34th Infantry Reg't	Pro. 2d Lieut. from 1st Serg't.
Eckles, Marmaduke.....	Feb. 4, 1865.	do do do	Det. Rec. M. O. July 12, 1865.
Eyer, William.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	do do do	Mustered out June 12, 1865.
Eckles, Thomas.....	June 18, 1864.	do do do	do do do
Fish, Erasmus.....	Aug. 18, 1864.	do do do	do do do
Fish, Alfred.....	Aug. 12, 1862.	Burnside's Marine Art'y.	Transferred to First Artillery.
Eastwood, Clifford.....	March 6, '64.	Co. D 24th Infantry Reg't	Mustered out July 12, 1865.
Fletcher, Dennis.....	Sept. 2, 1862.	do do do	do do do
Gaston, Robert.....	March 1, '65.	do do do	do do do
Gleichenland, Lewis.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	do do do	Died March 22, 1865, wounds.
Gratton, Henry.....	June 18, 1864.	do do do	Mustered out Oct. 29, 1864.
Hutton, Ira.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	do do do	do do do
Hutton, Ira.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	do do do	do do do
Holly, James.....	do do do	do do do	do do do
Haire, William.....	do do do	do do do	do do do
Holly, Medrie.....	June 18, 1864.	do do do	do do do
Holly, William.....	do do do	do do do	do do do
Hoffman, Jacob.....	Feb. 23, 1862.	B. F. First Artillery.....	Died at Memphis, July 21, 1864.
Hubbard, M. D. M.....	May 24, 1864.	Co. D 13th Infantry Reg't	Disch. Feb. 4, 1865; disability.
Jackson, Charles.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	D 24th do	Mustered out July 12, 1865.
John, Theodore.....	Dec. 28, 1863.	B. F. First Artillery.....	do do do
King, John.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	Co. I 15th Infantry Reg't	do do do
Klosterman, Ferdinand.....	Sept. 7, 1861.	do do do	do do do
Kruger, Deedrick.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	do do do	do do do
Kruger, Deedrick.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	do do do	do do do
Kane, Michael.....	do do do	do do do	do do do



Name and Rank	Date of Muster	Company and Regiment.	Remarks.
Lamkin, George.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	Co. D 34th Infantry Regt.	Mustered out July 12, 1865.
McGuffey, Andrew.....	March 1, '65.	do I 15th do do	do Sept. 16, 1865.
Mead, Alfred.....	Sept. 7, 1861.	do D 34th do do	do July 12, 1865.
Morgan, Charles.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	do do do do	do do
Morgan, Sidney.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Müller, John.....	June 18, 1864.	do D 140th do do	do Oct. 29, 1864.
Mueller, Herman.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Oliver, Stephen.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Page, David.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Parks, Bruce.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Reynolds, Wyckman.....	March 3, '65.	do D 34th do do	do July 12, 1865.
Reynolds, Nicheam.....	June 18, 1864.	do D 140th do do	do Oct. 29, 1864.
Reardon, John.....	Feb. 28, 1862.	Bat. F First Artillery.....	Veteran. M. O. July 6, 1865.
Seavey, John F.....	Feb. 28, 1865.	Co. I 15th Infantry Regt.	Mustered out Sept. 16, 1865.
Slater, Albert.....	Sept. 7, 1861.	do D 13th do do	Killed at Resaca, May 14, 1864.
Sartorius, Gustave.....	Feb. 28, 1864.	do D 34th do do	Mustered out July 12, 1865.
Shaw, Samuel.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Schock, William.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Schick, Emanuel.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Seavey, Gideon.....	June 18, 1865.	do D 140th do do	do Oct. 29, 1864.
Sax, Edward.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Schock, Jacob.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Sillwell, Julius.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Sutorius, Lewis.....	do do	do do do do	do do
Shick, Rush.....	Feb. 25, 1862.	Bat. F First Artillery.....	Veteran. M. O. April 11, 1865.
Short, Henry.....	Dec. 14, 1863.	do do do do	Mustered out July 12, 1865.
Stewart, Alvah.....	Sept. 7, 1861.	Co. D 34th Infantry Regt.	do do
Tilton, Francis.....	March 8, 1865.	Bat. F First Artillery.....	do do
Thompson, James.....	Feb. 25, 1862.	do do do do	do do
Tombrow, John.....	Dec. 14, 1863.	do do do do	do do
Thomas, Van J.....	Jan. 4, 1864.	do do do do	do do
Thummel, Anson.....	Sept. 7, 1861.	Co. D 34th Infantry Regt.	do do
Vanderweert, Jesse.....	June 18, 1864.	do D 140th do do	do July 12, 1865; Surg.
Whitcomb, William.....	Feb. 28, 1865.	do I 15th do do	do Oct. 29, 1864.
Wheeler, Christopher.....	Sept. 7, 1861.	do A 7th do do	do Sept. 16, 1865.
Wilson, Theodore.....	June 18, 1864.	do D 140th do do	Discharged May 28, 1865, for P.O.
Wetherbee, Edwin.....	do do	do do do do	Mustered out Oct. 29, 1864.
Williams, John.....	do do	do do do do	do do

## PALMYRA AND THE PALMYRENS.

BY J. THARP LAWRENCE.

[This article was written for the Dixon Sex January, 1877.]

Palmyra of old had her historian, why should not the glories of this, the modern Palmyra be also recorded—particularly in this second century of the great Western republic? And though her young life scarce numbers forty summers, how great the change since the ploughman first made long furrows in her back and the woodman struck his axe in the sugar bearing maples. Connect not the name, dear reader, with visions of shady groves of waving palms, with bubbling fountains and breezes laden with the scent of the myrtle and orange, the lime and the almond—none such are to be found in the place whose history I am recording, and such visions would soon fade before the furious blasts of our Northern winters, with the air filled with snowflakes, and the leafless trees swaying under fierce assaults of Boreas. No warlike Zenobia leads us on to victory, but in her stead we follow the mildness of Minerva, the Corns, Pomona, and Flora. This, not, however, because we can boast of none of these things in which lay the beauty of ancient Palmyra, the modern has no charms of her own. These are to be found in her broad fertile plains, once covered with a profusion of juicy grasses and flowers of every brilliant hue—in her stately groves of maple and walnut, of ash and oak—in the impetuous rush of the crystal Rock River, rolling her tide to join the Father of Waters, her surface broken with the sportive gambols of bass and perch, the leaping sturgeon and rushing pike—and even in the silver thread of Sugar Creek, which once could boast of turning a saw mill. Palmyra is situated in the extreme northwest corner of Lee county, and contains thirty-three sections of land, almost every acre susceptible of cultivation, the surface is sufficiently rolling to insure good drainage, and from its containing so large a proportion of timber, was one of the best settled towns in the county, as, in the absence of railroads to transport fuel and fencing, wood was indispensable to the early settlers. This town was formerly a part of do Davies county, which then embraced all the north-west part of Illinois—Lee, Carroll, Ogles and Whiteside. It then formed a part of Ogles, with the county seat at Oregon, which gave such dissatisfaction to this portion of the county, that in 1839 the present county of Lee was formed, with the county seat at Dixon. The first settlers in the town of Palmyra were the

Morgan family—old Mr. Morgan and his sons, Harvey and John—with whom came Benjamin Stewart. This was in the spring of 1844, two years after the war with the Sacs and Foxes. The only white man in this part of the county was Mr. John Dixon, settled at Dixon's Ferry. Numbers of Indians, principally Winnebagoes, still remained here, hunting in bands through the country, having their headquarters at Prophetstown and Freeport. They were, however, quite peaceable, though occasionally stealing few potatoes or some corn. The Morgans and Stewart settled on the south side of Sugar Grove, and in the autumn of the same year and early in 1845 several others came in—Wright and Tomlin, of the present Myers' farm; Capt. Oliver Hubbard; John H. Page and Fellows; Absalom Fender with a large family, and W. W. Bethea; Daniel Orlis and Mr. Thummel, a brother of the C. B. Thummel; Harrie; Keppinger; Nathan Morehouse; Sales; Thomas, with his two sons, Enoch and Noah, who settled in the south-west corner of the town, in Walnut Grove; two brothers, Sandy and Elkanah Bush; and Martin Richardson. Of all these early settlers there only remain at present, living in the town, Mrs. Tilton, the widow of Capt. Hubbard, and W. W. Bethea. E. B. Bush and Tomlin were the first advocates of the peace. Bush, however, never qualified. They were succeeded by Harvey Morgan and W. W. Bethea. "Squire" Morgan remained for many years the factotum of the town, serving as justice of the peace, probate justice, and town clerk. The first teaching of the young idea, not how to shoot, for that was learned readily enough, but of the mysteries of the alphabet, was given by Mrs. Hubbard, but no regular school was established until 1848, when a frame building, never finished, was put up. In order to accommodate the greater number, this was built in the center of Sugar Grove, about a mile and a half from any dwelling. Here for two winters, "Squire" Bethea directed the boys, and coaxed the girls.

E. B. Bush was the first postmaster. I suppose his duties in the wilderness were not very onerous. He had, however, a deputy by the name of Kellogg at Buffalo Grove. Martin Richardson told me that on one occasion Bush was going to settle with his deputy, and, said he, "As he thought old man Kellogg was kind of ugly and might cut up rough, he would have me go along with him, and said I must carry a pistol. By gosh! I never

felt so mean in my life. I kept a ramskin the easiest thing into my pocket, but it would keep a pokin' out, and I thought every one I met would see what I was carrying." However, old man Kellogg did not cut up rough, and they had no occasion to use the pistol. This Richardson was a most favorable specimen of the Western pioneer—a short, stout man, with a fiery red face, the most gleaming white teeth, and an immense shock of irrepressible straw-colored hair, that seemed to be constantly trying to push his hat of his head—an excellent farmer, the best of neighbors, and the most liberal of men; yet he dearly loved a free fight, where every one was at liberty "to go in." I remember on one occasion, when he was to longer young, a young fellow by the name of Helecks commenced blackguarding him while he was engaged in polling a ferry-hoat, thinking himself safe, as Richardson was some distance from the shore. The old man jumped into the river, waded ashore, ran down Helecks, and seizing him by his flowing hair, administered several heavy kicks. Sued before the squire, he was fined \$5.00. "This," said Helecks, as he put the money in his pocket, "is all I can buy my wife and new dress." "Yes," said Richardson, "and by gudge!" the next time I catch you I will cloth the whole family."

This E. B. Bush, of whom we purchased the squatter's right to the claim he occupied, invested a large portion of the purchase money in machinery for a saw mill, and also one for the manufacture of castor and linseed oil. To obtain credit for his oil mills he induced a number of the neighboring farmers to devote a large portion of their lands to raising flaxseed and castor-oil beans, promising them a dollar a bushel for either of these products. This, in those days of moneyed scarcity, seemed a sure road to fortune, and we went at it with a will. The crop was a splendid one, but in the absence of the oil mill, and, of course, how to separate the seed from the flax was the query. We tried tramping it out with horses, as we did the wheat and oats, but the flax was soon trodden into ropes which entangled the horses' feet, and we had finally to abandon it altogether. Nor were we more successful with the castor beans; some small grain they were gathered in buckets, and as they were pleasant to the eye and the palate, many children required no more castor oil that season. About the time of harvesting the beans, Bush's money gave out, and the bulk of the crop rotted on the ground. He had taken in as a partner a young man whose contribution to the joint stock was a colt valued at thirty dollars and made for the hard work. When the business failed this partner shed him for vices, and the case being referred "to three men," as was the custom of the day, they awarded him half wages. This was in 1841, and was, I believe, the first attempt at manufacturing in our neighborhood.

But to go back to our infant settlement, in spite of an occasional squabble, the greatest cordiality prevailed among the few inhabitants of the town. Old settlers always look back with fondness to the good old times, when each universal friendly feeling existed. The prairie once broken, the crops grew almost without labor, as there were so few weeds and the land so fertile. What few supplies they needed, or could afford, such as flour and groceries, were hauled by ox teams from Peoria, and their own produce brought a high price among the miners in Galena. Some of the new comers brought nothing with them but mouths to feed. Of such was Sales, of Sales' Spring. To buy a bushel of corn he had to split one hundred rails. Taking his corn home, he cut a hole in a log, which he fastened a spring pole with an iron wedge inserted in the end of it. Working the pole up and down, he unshook the corn; then sliding it, the finer portions he used for meal and the coarser for hominy. He was a great hunter, and as game was very abundant, the river full of fish and covered with ducks and geese, he and his family suffered no lack. They were no great mill owners then, for, until Joseph Wilson, an old Brandywine miller, came to settle on the Elkhorn Creek, when the settlers turned out in a body and put up a log mill on the Elkhorn, a short distance above the present mill. It was a rough looking structure, but I have never tasted finer flour than Joe Wilson made from the splendid winter wheat of those days. Until sawing mills were erected in Dixon, however, owing to the dryness of the creeks in summer, we were often obliged to go as far as Aurora, on the Fox River, to get what ground.

Pan, Christ was drowned while sealing in Elkhorn creek, and was succeeded by his brother Abram, who put up a saw-mill on Sugar Creek. This was a great accommodation to the settlers, who could thus get flooring, door and window frames for their log houses, instead of having to travel. They could even build frame barns—the first I believe, being built, and is still standing, on the Seavey place, then owned by Ben Stewart. On these occasions the whole settlement would be called upon to help raise. There would be lots of hog and hominy washed down by copious draughts of Pres. Butler's pure corn whiskey, and he barn would be duly raised and then christened by breaking a bottle over the parlin plate, Abner Moon or Ruben Eastwood being generally chosen to perform this ceremony, on account of their stentorian voices.

A man bearing the name of Smith was the first blacksmith in the settlement. He soon left and was followed by James Carley, who for many years shod the horses, sharpened the ploughs, sighted the rides, and did all the thousand and one jobs of tinkering that the people could not do for themselves. He was a most skillful work-

man and a great power in the settlement, for on the approach of winter there would be such a demand for his services in shoeing horses, that towns would be engaged sometimes a week in advance, and woe betide the man that did not stand high in his good graces. Carley took his pay in kind—wheat, corn, pork, etc.—and consequently, though hating his own charcoal, he furnished no iron, and it exercised all his ingenuity to convert the various scraps that were brought to him into the required shoe, etc. I remember on one occasion his usual blasphemy found musical vent at being required to forge a horse shoe out of a broken monkey-wrench. A curious attachment existed between Carley and a poor slave of the bottle by the name of Beach. This Beach belonged to a highly respectable family in the East, and had received an excellent business education. He kept Carley's books, which were models of neatness. He also blew the bellows and fetched the whiskey from Dixon. Old settlers will ever remember this mass of rags and piles, his head crowned with a dilapidated old stove-pipe, always filled with greasy newspapers, which he greedily devoured when he had leisure. By the spring of 1840, the settlement had gained considerable accession to its members and contained about sixty voters. In addition to those I have already named, there were four families of Martins, two of Powers (disfranchised as Yankee and Kentuck), two of Lawrences, Graham, Law, Baker, Hutton, Gaston, Holly, Cox, Miller, two of Johnsons, Parks, Beede, and some others.

The failure of the United States Bank had caused numbers of local banks to spring into existence, which flooded the country with their worthless paper, and gave great anxiety proper to the country; but by the year 1840 all of these, together with the State Bank of Illinois, had passed out of existence, and hard times set in. Emigration was checked and their belongings longer any demand across them Chicago for the surplus produce, the price of wheat fell from \$2.00 per bushel to 25 and 30 cents, corn from a dollar to 20 cents, beef and pork to 1½ and 2 cents per pound, and even these prices were nominal, wheat being the only article that would sell for cash. This was hailed to Chicago in loads of thirty and forty bushels, and sold for 63 to 75 cents. The farmer generally took with him his own provisions, grain for his horses, scythe, axe and ax, slept under his wagon; and calculated that the trip, which generally required a week, should cost him nothing but his time. Some were fortunate enough to secure a return load from the storekeeper, at the rate of 40 cents per hundred lbs. for a distance of 116 miles. The proceeds of the trip were carefully hoarded for the land sale. But if produce were scarce and the country small. Few had a hundred dollars invested in

farm machinery. Beyond the iron in the plow share, the steel in the hoe, axe, scythe, and blade of the "turkey wing cradle," all was of wood, and generally home-made. Taxes were merely nominal, three commissioners, an assessor and collector doing all the business of the county. I have an old tax receipt for \$1.50 in full on a farm of 320 acres, fairly stocked for that day.

A man dressed as his fancy dictated—some entirely in buckskin of their own tanning. The appearance of one figure I shall never forget as he went about dressed in the remains of what had been a bright-colored dressing gown, the gift of a city friend; on his head a coonskin cap, with the tail hanging between his shoulders; moccasins, and a long rifle, with spotted fawnskin pouch.

We had a weekly eastern mail, carried from Chicago in the Frisk & Walker coaches, on Sunday. On that day all those who had reason to expect letters met in Dixon to get their mail and exchange drinks at a little building near the ferry, called "The Hole in the Wall." Here we also met many of those curious wails and strays of society, of which I have heard since I have been here, but I shall spare. Among them was a man by the name of Truett, who had shot an editor of a paper in cold blood, but had escaped the rope. An old gentile man had been introduced to him without hearing his name distinctly, after some conversation with him, said to his introducer, "Who is that fellow, Billee, you introduced to me?" "Oh, that," said he, "is Truett—Truett who murdered Dr. Early." His horror on hearing this was most indelible. "Shaken hands with a murderer!" he exclaimed, "Good God! shaken hands with a murderer! Bring me some water." And he continued to turn his hands over and over and vociferate for water until a basin full was brought, and he was enabled to wash "out the damned spot."

But enough of the old days, Palmyra has her full share of the prosperity of the country which she has aided so largely to develop. The log houses of the early settlers have given place to numerous tasty dwellings and commodious barns; the many neatly painted school houses show the regard paid to education. Among them is a fine brick building intended as a graded school put up at a cost of \$5,000. On the grounds in front of this stands the monument erected to the memory of those sons of Palmyra whose blood enriched the Southern battle fields—sons who Palmyra has always freely given when her country called for them. In addition to the usual country shops. Mr. John Lord, a son of one of the early settlers, has built up from small beginnings an extensive wagon and carriage shop, which from the excellence of the material and workmanship has attained a great reputation as well outside as in the town. Mr. Abijah Powers, a settler of '38, has not only added many fair acres to the original

claim, but was the first to introduce the fine Short-horn cattle into the county, and has now a numerous herd. For many years the farmers were a rich source of plunder to the numerous fire insurance companies, but in 1835 the Palmyra fire insurance company was originated by an association of a few farmers. This company which insures nothing but farm property and country school buildings, is managed by a President, secretary, and treasurer, and thirteen managers. It has insurance on \$965,175 worth of property. Insures for \$3 per \$1000, with membership fee of \$1. The insurance is perpetual and their is no further demand on the insured except in case of loss by fire, when a pro ratio assessment is laid. How slight this tax is may be judged

from the fact that in the eleven years of its existence the total assessments have not yet reached one per cent.

In these western towns settled by persons from so many foreign countries and parts of the Union, the effects of our form of government and institutions are seen in the most favorable light. Here the poor emigrant, finding no bar to the acquisition of property and pursuit of happiness, rapidly develops into the well-to-do American citizen. The New Englander losing his narrowness, while retaining his thrift and intelligence, finds here a wider field for their exercise, and the Southerner, still liberal, acquires industry, economy and education.

## EARLY TIMES AT DIXON'S FERRY.

BY JOHN K. ROBINSON.

Emigration to the Northern part of Illinois before the Black Hawk war, was almost entirely confined to the mines at Galena. The rich farming lands of the prairies and river valleys had received but little attention; only a very few attempts had been made to improve chimneys and make homes away from the Galena. Early in the summer of 1827, Mr. O. W. Kellogg, traveled by wagon from Fort Clark, now Peoria, to Galena. He reached and crossed Rock River a few miles above the present city of Dixon. Passing up the valley of the Pine Creek country between Polo and Mount Morris, he touched the western part of West Grove, then proceeded north to Galena. Mr. Kellogg was the pioneer traveler over this route and thus marked out a course of travel which became known as "Kellogg's trail." A large number of fortune hunters on their way to the mines, passed over this trail the summer and fall of the same year. Before this trail, the road connecting the mines with the settled portions of the state, passed by Rock Island. As the country became better known, the Kellogg trail was thought to pass too far east to be the shortest route to the mines. In the spring of 1828, "John Boles, who was traveling across the country," says *The History of Ogle County*, published in 1878, "left the beaten trail some miles south of Rock River and crossed that stream just above where it is now crossed by the Illinois Central railroad at Dixon. He then passed up through the country about one mile east of Polo; thence north to White Oak Grove, and so on to Galena. This trail immediately came to be the popular route of travel and was known as 'Bole's trail.'" Crossing Rock River in the early times was a remembered feat, as the report of Col. Streight shows in a letter written to the Governor of the State, giving an account of his command swimming the river at Dixon in 1827. The method of crossing the river with teams before the establishment of a ferry was primitive and simple. On arriving at the place of crossing, the wagons were unloaded and the loads carried over in canoes by the Indians, the wagon was then driven with the side to the stream, two wheels lifted into a canoe then shoved a little out into the river, and another canoe received the other wheels, when the double boat was paddled or poled to the other side; the horses were taken by the bridle and made to swim by the side of the canoe, cattle swam loose; then commenced the

lifting out of the wagons and reloading, and the journey was renewed, all hands inspecting that the task of crossing the river was completed. Once James P. Dixon, well acquainted with the hardships of crossing, arriving on the banks of the river with the mail wagon, called for the Indians for their assistance, but received no answer; vexed at their delay and their arrogance when they did assist, he holdly unhooked his horses, so as to give them a chance to swim, and crossed the river with the mail and wagon in safety.

With the establishment of Bole's trail, the site of Dixon became a fixed place for the early travelers to cross the river. This was often attended with a great deal of inconvenience. The Indians were not always present or in readiness with their canoes. When the river was low it was easily forded, but this was not always the case. It seems the first attempt to establish a ferry at this place was made by J. L. Bogardis, of Peoria, who sent a couple of men here in the summer of 1827, or very early in the spring of 1828, for that purpose; a shanty, 8 by 10 feet, was erected on the bank of the river and work on a boat soon afterwards commenced. When the boat was about half completed, the Indians set fire to it, and told the boulders to "go to Peoria." The two men hastily gathered up their kits and departed. In the spring of 1828, Joseph Ogee, an Indian Interpreter and Trader, settling at here, erected a log house, and established a ferry. Ogee had married a Pottawatomie woman, and had adopted many customs and habits of the Indians, and was annoyed by them—remaining in possession of the ferry until he sold out to John Dixon. Father Dixon's object for changing his home from Boyd's Grove, where he had a short time before taken up his abode, was to occupy a more central position for his mail contract. He arrived at the ferry with his family the 11th of April, 1830. His hair was then as white as in the last year of his life. His personal appearance was almost unchanged from 1831 to 1876, his hair being white through all these years; age dealt kindly with him. The year previous to Father Dixon's taking possession of the ferry, a third trail had been established from Ogee's Ferry to the mines. This trail ran by the house of Isaac Chambers, in Buffalo Grove, where Mr. Chambers had erected a tavern and opened a road through the timber, about two miles distant from the Boles trail on the

prairie. Some distance north of the grove, the road again intersected the Boles trail.

From 1820 to 1835 the travel crossing Rock river at the present site of Dixon was extensive. In early spring the emigration to the lead mines was one perpetual rush-like in character to the cold fever of later years. It swept over Rock River in swarms of from five to twenty teams a day through May and June; then again there was a mighty stream Southward during September and October. Among the many passing through we had of ministers: John Sinclair, John T. Mitchell, and Erasmus Keat, all famous as faithful men and able ministers; Judges: Thomas Ford, afterwards Governor of Illinois, and Young; lawyers: Mills and Sheldon; and black legs whose name is legion. Accommodations were furnished the travelers as far as the beds, bedding, and table room of the "stavern" would reach. Between the two houses forming the long, one-story portion of the building was a ten or twelve foot hall with a door way at either end, facing north and south. Entering the hall from the south, on the west was the family sitting room, on the east was the travelers' and hired help's room—each room eighteen feet square. The furniture of the west room consisted of two beds, quite a number of chairs, and a table extending clear across the room, where the meals were taken in cold weather; in warm weather the meals were taken in the hall. The east room contained four beds, one in each corner. When driven to extend this bed room, the "Slake-down" was resorted to, which was of common occurrence. A Buffalo robe or Bear skin spread on the soft side of the floor, with a blanket or quilt for covering, made a bed good enough for any body. The floor was often covered in both rooms, and the hall filled to overflowing with these bachelors and their families. The floor-room was not always of sufficient proportion to accommodate the entire party; the remainder enamped all about the premises—there was room enough out doors for all. Owing to the base of supplies being so distant—Peoria ninety miles, and Galena sixty-five miles—we were often driven to extremities. No weather or bad roads satisfied hunger or stayed travel. Ample, feeling his gnawing grow restless and insubordinate. Our own family and travelers gave vent to human nature without stint. Few could take in the difficulties of having the whole of a large caravan to feed. The Inlet stream was unbridged and frequently swimming, and in that direction our supplies were often crossed under water. It reached us. Our horses were taught swimming and became proficient in that calling. I have been employed a little below the present road crossing Inlet Creek, swimming horses and wagons across one way and back the other, for more than two hours at a time, and once safely swam a four-horse team attached to a wagon loaded with lumber, across the stream at the imminent risk

of myself and team. Mail stages were three times submerged and ruined in Inlet. Northward, Apple River and both Plumb Rivers were also difficult to cross and much more dangerous, as the crossings were bad and the current rapid.

Father Dixon did his trading with the Indians as a matter of necessity. He had lived at Peoria and learned the character of the average trader and determined to deal more justly with the Indians than had been done. He ingratiated himself with them as their advisor and friend, strongly urging them to a civilized life and habits of sobriety, diligence and honesty. The store room in which he traded with the Indians, was in the East building, (the two story house) where he sold powder, lead, shot, wampum, tobacco, pipes, shoedles, (a coarse cloth) blankets, guns, beads, needles, axes, knives, spears, Muskats and other traps, calicoes, etc., and but one thing at a time. Why? The Indian is a thief always and everywhere. In return he had their furs, dressed deer skins, muscoons, and fancy articles made by the female portion of his traders. These found a ready market in Galena, Peoria, and St. Louis.

Directly after taking up his permanent home at Dixon's Ferry, and while coming down the river from the place of ferrying, Father Dixon heard his Indian name excitedly called out. Turning around he saw a naked savage within one hundred feet of him, running towards him with a Muskats spear\* and gesticulating angrily. To defend himself unarmed was impossible; to fly cowardly. He took in the danger but his manhood refused to carry him out of danger, as his fleetness would have enabled him to do. He boldly faced his adversary, but before the Indian had an opportunity to throw his spear, his arms were securely grasped by some of the Indian spectators who interfered for Dixon's safety. After the drunken debauch was over, the Indian asked an interview with Father Dixon, which he refused him until the band to which the Indian belonged interceded for him. Much ceremony suits the Indian; the talk commenced, when the Indian, whose name was Dah-shun-egra, acknowledged his previous intention of "that bad whiskey made Indian," and asked forgiveness. He asked Father Dixon what he would have done, if he had thrown the spear and missed his aim. In reply Father Dixon said: "Had you thrown the spear and missed me, the spear would have passed by me and I should have reached it first, and should have killed you on the spot with your own spear." His coolness in the hour of danger, and this open avowal of a determined man to defend himself and repel force by force, were qualities that the savages could fully understand and appreciate. It established Father Dixon's character among the Indians as a White Brave.

\*The Muskats spear was made of a sharpened 6-8 inch, round iron rod, from two to three feet long, fastened to a wooden handle from four to six feet in length—making a dangerous weapon.

While Father Dixon carried the United States, mail from Springfield to Galena the streams were unbridged, not even "corduroyed;" swamps undrained; roads almost impassible; houses few and far between. Snow storms were more severe and the cold more intense than in later years. In the winter of 1830 and '31, (the winter of the deep snow) the snow averaged three feet deep from New Year's day to the 15th of March. No track was kept open from one settlement to another, and it was with great difficulty that roads were kept open even in densely settled districts. Fifteen and eighteen to twenty-seven miles was the usual distances between the homes along the route. On one of the longer routes during this memorable winter, Father Dixon and some of the stage passengers were so benumbed with cold and nearly frozen, as to be unable to get out of the conveyance. After a good warming and hot coffee, however, all were able to resume their journey.

During the Black Hawk war Father Dixon had the contract for supplying the army with beef and animal lard of the United States river. His place on the march was in the rear of the army, and from the time Wisconsin river was crossed until many times he was left so far behind as to be out of supporting distance. It so happened on the march, that at one time midnight was passed before he came to camp. He was halted by the sentinel with the snap of the lock of the gun in the sentinel's hands, and these words: "Who comes there." Father Dixon replied: "Major of the Steer Battalion." The soldier gave the order: "Major of the Steer Battalion, march in." This salutation on both sides, was the foundation of Father Dixon's military title. Another time he had been off the trail hunting one of his beavers, and on again returning to the trail he suddenly found himself face to face with two Indians, who were as much astonished at the meeting as he was. It was no time for ceremony. All were armed; Father Dixon lowered his gun and walking about five rods, gave his hand to the nearest savage, saluting him in Winnebago. The Indian replied in Winnebago. Father Dixon and both the Indians were alike to the trail he had unexpectedly good fortune—Father Dixon, that he was permitted to save his scalp for another day; the Indians that they had found some one understanding their own language, under whose influence they could safely be introduced to General Atkinson, for whom they had important dispatches. Their life was endangered to be seen by a soldier, and they felt their peril and were in serious embarrassment about how to approach the army.

Father Dixon's age, and experience with all classes of men, should have qualified him to safely criticize and distrust humanity, but he had no apprehension of imposition, he took

human nature as it fell from the hands of the infinitely Good. His estimate never tallied with the evil; never tired of being wronged, and as a consequence he was often disappointed in men. Obliging to all; hospitable and kind to the needy and helpless in every condition, he often trusted strangers and travelers from whom he never received any thing in return. It was no unusual thing, when the circumstances of travelers were told Father Dixon, for him to allow his ferry and hotel bills to remain unpaid, and to give them provisions and funds necessary to complete the journey—many dollars were given away in this manner. His unselfishness manifested itself in good will to all men; the Indian, or the child, looked to him for favors and kindness and was not turned away empty.

Mrs. Dixon was one of the few women, who could and did adorn any position in life in which she was placed. Her person was rather under size, exhibiting no marked peculiarity. She was intelligent far above the age and circumstances surrounding her, and had a warm heart and ready hand to every good and worthy work. Devout and fervent in all the holy exercises of religion and morality; ardently attached to the church (Baptist) to which she belonged, she gave her hand to all who bore the name and character of that great Christian body. Her moral worth, talents, virtue, and her whole life, was one of devotion to Christianity. She was Solomon's ideal of glorious womanhood before he was corrupted by the false glare and glitter of a false religion and an impure life. I record her life as the one to whom I owe more than any other, except mother and wife. As an early reminiscence of Mrs. Dixon's rare tact and knowledge of character, shall I venture to write that in the dead of winter, prostrate in Black Hawk war, the Prophet, from Prophet's Town, Black Hawk, and a chief from Rock Island, whose name I have forgotten, held a council at Dixon's Ferry, and then and there negotiated with the Potawatomies for the occupancy of the Spotted Arms' town near the present site of Rockford. Meal time came three weeks a day, to which the chiefs at the Council first were invited as guests of Mrs. Dixon. She provided as water, and to allay any fears of her guests, sat down and ate and drank with them. The perfect lady was reminded by Black Hawk, as spokesman, of her goodness, and he called the attention of the other chiefs to her care and politeness to them.

Early in the settlement of Buffalo Grove, Grand Detour, Dad Jo's, Palestine, Inlet, Melong, In's, Paw Paw, Franklin, and Grov Groves, were our neighbors. When I came to the county, in May 1832, the nearest settlement north of Dixon's Ferry was at Buffalo Grove, where lived Mr. Reed, O. W. Kellogg, and a Mr. Bush, and



their families. They were enabled to escape the impending storm at the commencement of the Black Hawk war, by flight, mostly under great losses and deprivations. Mrs. James Dixon, (yet living, in Dixon), one of the fugitives of that period. Dad Jo was also at the grove bearing his name, twenty miles south of Dixon, and was one of the good, jolly men who had made their homes along the route of the early thoroughfare between Peoria and Galena. Dad Jo had an uncommonly loud voice; it was often remarked in that day that "we knew they were alive at Dad's this morning, we heard him calling his boys; just twenty miles away." After Indian troubles had ceased, settlers commenced to arrive, and civilization began to assert its own in the "neighborhood" of Dixon's Ferry.

In 1833, the last week of December, Zachariah Melugin, with myself as his only assistant, built the first house in Lee County, outside of Dixon, at the grove that still bears his name. There was no other settlement made in Lee county that year. The families of Gilmore and Christence came to Melugin's Grove in the spring of 1834. Mr. Melugin lived but a few years after coming to the county.

1834 opens a new era in the improvement of Northern Illinois. In April, Isaac Morgan and his sons Harvey and John, began the improvements at Sugar Grove. A number of other families arrived in the fall of that year and early in 1835. Adolphus Bliss began the settlement of Juliet Grove in May or June of 1834. Oren Wright and two or three others came that summer or fall. Benjamin Harris, with his father and brother and a large train of relatives, moved to Paw Paw Grove. Mr. Jillett and Levi Kelso, Esq., made improvements at the north side of Paw Paw Grove, also of the same year. Esq. Kelso deceased at Mendota in 1890.

In the summer of 1834, Mr. Bush, a brother-in-law of Judge Logan, lately passed away in Chicago, located a farm and ferry at the termination of the river timber below Dixon, north side of the river, on the farm now owned by J. T. Lawrence.

The same summer I improved a place on the north side of Rock River, two miles below Dixon, and was joined afterwards by two of Father Dixon's sons. It afterwards was known as the Graham farm.

Autumn of this year, (1834) Mr. Hollingshead made arrangements for the erection of a log house, south-east of Grand Detour, which was built in January of 1835. Mr. Hollingshead did not like the country and soon returned to Kentucky. Esquire Chamberlain, for many years one of the County Commissioners of Ogle county, bought the place, and lived there until he died at a ripe old age.

The winter of 1834, Grand Detour is taken by Mr. Leonard Andrus and W. A. House, where for

many years the former, in connection with Mr. Deere, now of Moline, ran a plow factory. Mr. Andrus has been dead many years.

In 1834 Mr. Kirkpatrick attempted to start a town, one and a quarter miles below Dixon, on the place now known as Dr. Everett's farm. It was called Burlington. Kirkpatrick employed an old man by the name of "Tutt" Baker to establish a ferry at that point. Neither this nor the ferry started by Bush, proved successful, and was soon abandoned.

The second house erected on the present site of Dixon, south side of the river, was either James P. Dixon's or a house erected on corner of Water and Galena streets, by Judge Wilkinson. These two houses were put up so near in point of time that I can not determine which had precedence. The latter building was moved from the Kirkpatrick place, which had been purchased by Judge Wilkinson.

In 1835 Judge Wilkinson purchased an interest in Dixon, and during the same year erected a saw mill, where James Hatch's residence now stands, at the foot of Peoria street. Mr. Talmage and other mechanics from Buffalo, N. Y., came to Dixon to perform the work. After its completion the saw mill was run a short time by Huff & Thompson. It was afterwards used for a distillery and vinegar factory.

Mr. Smith Gilbrath also bought an interest in Dixon in 1835, and until his death in 1843, figured prominently in the public affairs of the town.

Mr. Joseph Crawford, the first County Surveyor of Ogle, then of Lee county, arrived in Dixon in the spring of 1835, and improved a farm near Grand Detour. The two Catwashes, carpenters, were also arrivals of that year.

Mr. Hawley improved a farm at the ten-mile grove, about three miles from Sterling, in 1835; others settled near Sterling on the north side of the river.

The aged Mr. Badger with several sons located near the present city of Amboy, Benjamin Wessou, Asa Searis, Joseph Doane, and John Dexter, were domiciled in that vicinity the current year.

Mr. Wiley settled in Franklin Grove, and was one of the contestants of an early claim trouble. Father Dixon was one of the arbitrators. The quiet way of settling the matter was its striking feature.

Other improvements made as early as 1835 in the near vicinity of Dixon, were the Woodford farm, by Dr. Forest, from Kentucky; the Trevelman farm, by George A. Martin. E. W. Corvill also improved a place on the north side of the river, and Caleb Talmage, a farm about a mile south of Dixon. In the town, Dr. Forrest had erected a log house on the corner of Water and Ottawa streets, and John Wilson, a black smith shop on Main street.

## ADDENDA.

[Under this head, errors and omissions are corrected, and additional facts of interest in relation to the early history, given.]

The first sermon preached in Dixon was in the fall of 1834 (not 1836 as stated on the 4th page) by a Methodist Missionary, named Segg. His field of labor extended from Apple River to Prophetstown. He made the circuit once in four weeks. He celebrated the marriage of James P. Dixon and wife, at Buffalo Grove, that winter. Rev. Segg died in about eight months after he came to the circuit.

Mr. John K. Robinson was a teacher in the family of Father Dixon, prior to the Miss Butler mentioned on page six, having acted in that capacity in the winter of 1833 and '34. Children of Mr. O. W. Kellogg, of Buffalo Grove, were members of the school. It was the custom for a few years, for Mr. Kellogg to employ a teacher once winter, when Mr. Dixon would send his children to Buffalo Grove, and for Mr. Dixon to employ the teacher the next winter, when Mr. Kellogg would send his children to Dixon's Ferry. The teacher and one of the scholars, Mrs. E. B. Baker, are the only survivors of this first private school, in Dixon.

The correct date of the sale of town lots, spoken of on page 13, was March 13, 1835, instead of 1836. The date of the opening of Reading Room (Page 34, first column) should read Jan. 30, 1873.

The name of the "leading Winnebago chief," mentioned on page 28, first column, was Pachunka, instead of "Pachinka."

Corrections of Stillman's defeat, page 28, second column—But one Indian was killed, and no prisoners taken, in the dash of the whites at the commencement of the fight; the first news of the rout of Stillman's command, was brought to Dixon's Ferry by a youth, not over seventeen or eighteen years of age, not by the "Kentucky lawyer" mentioned in that connection. It is certain that eight, out of the eleven men killed, were killed on the west side of the creek, and belonged to Captain Adams' command. To their honor be it said, this command made a stand as none others did.

At the Indian Creek Massacre, the attack was

made with less than twenty-five Indians, not "seventy," as stated on page 29, first column.

The body of William Durly, killed on the 19th of May, 1832, (page 29, second column) was found on the 23d of May, by ——— Hawley, O. W. Kellogg, J. K. Robinson, and a father and son by the name of Fowler. On the 23d of May, a party of ten men left Dixon's Ferry for the purpose of burying the body of Durly. They were accompanied by Felix St. Vrain, and six others, who were to take dispatches through to Galena. The ten men returned to Dixon in safety after the burial, the others went on towards Galena, and were attacked by Indians, as stated on page 28.

The Volunteer troops were mustered out at Dixon's Ferry, at the close of the Black Hawk war, and not the "United States troops," as stated on the 31st page, first column.

The name "James Wilson," on page 32, second column, should be John Wilson.

The sketch of the present institutions of Dixon was prepared and printed in June, 1880. This explanation is due from the fact that the description was written in the present tense, and several changes have taken place, especially in the officers of the various civic societies, before the date of issuing the book, December 9, 1880.

The statement on the 30th page of the number of graduates from the High School since 1864, should read sixty-six, instead of "seventy-two;" forty-three females, and thirty-three males.

The Waverly House has changed hands since writing the notice on the 18th page; it is now under the management of Mosier & Catting, both men of experience in the hotel business.

Since printing the sketch of the "Dixon Plow Works" (page 41) there has been a change in ownership and management. September 15, 1880, the Orvis Plow Company became proprietors, and the business is now under the immediate management of Messrs. F. K. Orvis and John L. Orvis, who have for the last fifteen years been identified with it.

Our SETTLER RECORD CONNECTIONS—Buckland, Joseph, came to county in 1843. Brandon, Edward, born in 1793, came to county in 1837, died in October, 1839; John, born in 1801, came to county

in 1837: Benjamin, born in 1815, came to county in 1837. Cutshaw, John and Joshua, came to county in 1835. Crawford, Joseph, born in 1811. Coe, Henry, born 1814, died July 5, 1858. Cambell, Alexander, born in 1820. Grimes, Thomas, born in 1767. Innhardt, Oliver, born in 1804, died Sept. 16, 1840. Mead, Heman, born in 1809; the remarks in last column, opposite the names of Hiram and Alfonso Mead should be transferred.

It is proper place we omitted to notice one of the most important institutions of Dixon, namely, the Dixon Gas Light Company. The business was established in the spring of 1877 and is now under the successful management of Henry C. and Thomas Higgins. These gentlemen, by skill and admirable luck, have extended the business so that they now furnish light for many private residences, as well as the business houses and streets. The company have laid over three miles of mains, and have put in forty-two street lamps for the city. They now furnish one hundred and twenty consumers with light.

In August, 1829, Mr. J. G. Souard took a load of lead, (8000 pounds) from Gales to Chicago. The *Gales Advertiser*, of that date said: This is the first wagon that has ever passed from the Mississippi river to Chicago." The route taken was from the mines to Oge's ferry, thence east sixty miles to the "Missionary establishment on Fox River;" thence in a northwesterly course sixty miles to Chicago.

In 1831 Dixon was within the limits of Buffalo Grove precinct. Jo Daviess county, as the following order shows, placed upon record June 8, 1831, at a session of the Commissioners of that county:

"It is considered that the persons residing within the following limits shall constitute voters within Buffalo Grove Precinct, viz.: East of the Lewiston road and south of a line to include the dwelling of Crane and Hilliard, running to the southern boundary of the county inclusive.

It is considered that John Dixon, Isaac Chambers, and John Ankenby be and they are hereby appointed judges of the elections for the Buffalo Grove Precinct.

It is considered that the house of John Ankenby be the place of voting in and for the Buffalo Grove Precinct."

In all this wide extent of territory, it is said there was not to exceed fifty voters—and probably not that many, at that time.

At a session of the County Commissioners of Ogle county, held March 6, 1837, election precincts were established for that county, and at the same session an election was ordered to be held in each of the precincts on the 12th day of April, to fill vacancies in county offices. William P. Burroughs, James P. Dixon, and William Martin were appointed judges of elections, and the house of E. W. Covell was named as the place of voting for Dixon Precinct.

At the same session E. W. Covell was granted license to sell goods, wares, merchandise, etc., in Dixon, for one year, upon consideration of the payment of \$10 to the county treasurer.

At the election held April 12, Dixon Precinct voted for two constables, Benjamin H. Steward received 30 votes, and John Morse received 29 votes. The precinct included territory now comprising the townships of Palmyra, Dixon, South Dixon, and Nelson.

At an election held in Dixon June 10, 1837, for Justices of the Peace and constables, the result stood as follows: Justices of the Peace—Samuel McClure, 31; Horace Thompson, 19; E. W. Covell, 1. Constable—D. B. McKenney, 35; Samuel Leonard, 10; S. Britton, 1.

At an extra session of the County Commissioners Court of Ogle county, held at Dixon July 28, 1837, a petition was presented, asking the Commissioners to refuse to grant licenses to keep grocers (saloons) in the town of Dixon. The following entry was made:

*Ordered*, That the clerk shall not grant to any person or persons, license to keep grocery in the town of Dixon.

Mississippi river steamboats occasionally made trips up Rock River in the early days. In April, 1838, the steamer *Guyette* went up the river as far as Oregon; she had on board a load of bacon bought in St. Louis by Mr. Phelps, of Oregon. There was some dissatisfaction in regard to the contract and Mr. Phelps would not take the meat; Smith Gilbrath was aboard the boat, and told the captain to turn around and unload the bacon at Dixon. It was unloaded at the foot of Peoria street.

In July 1844, the *Lighter* ascended the river at Jaynesville, Wis. Perhaps this is the time that Col. Johnson wanted the "boys" to "fire of the stump" in honor of her arrival, which some of the early settlers recall with so much amusement.

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